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Last-minute pact with Labour

Pension split deal to save divorce law

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY AND ALICE THOMSON

MINISTERS overcame fierce opposition to their divorce reforms last night when they agreed to Labour's demands for a law forcing couples to split their pensions when their marriage ends.

Labour had threatened to kill the Family Law Bill unless the commitment on pensions was included, but ministers resisted until minutes before last night's crucial debate.

The concession means that the Government will draft new laws after consulting the pensions industry later this year. However, the legislation is not expected this side of a general election.

Pension splitting has been one of the key issues in a Bill that has been dogged by controversy, but the Government had to make several other concessions as it went through its final Commons stages. Ministers also accepted demands from backbench Tories that partners with strong religious views could claim additional hardship in their attempts to block a divorce.

Campaigners have argued that wives suffer extra hardship from divorce because pensions are not split until the holder retires. Ministers in the Lords had agreed in principle to the change, but until yesterday they had rejected calls for a commitment to legislation.

Paul Boateng, Labour's legal affairs spokesman, attacked the Government's stance and said the Opposition would not be afraid to kill the Bill, even though it initially



"The marriage was perfect. Then we fell out over the Divorce Bill"

supported it. "We must make one thing absolutely crystal clear — there will be no Family Law Bill, no Bill that will pass this House, that does not have written on its face the regulations that are contained in our amendment to this particular matter," he said. "They will have no Bill unless they recognise the vital nature of the concerns that we have raised with them."

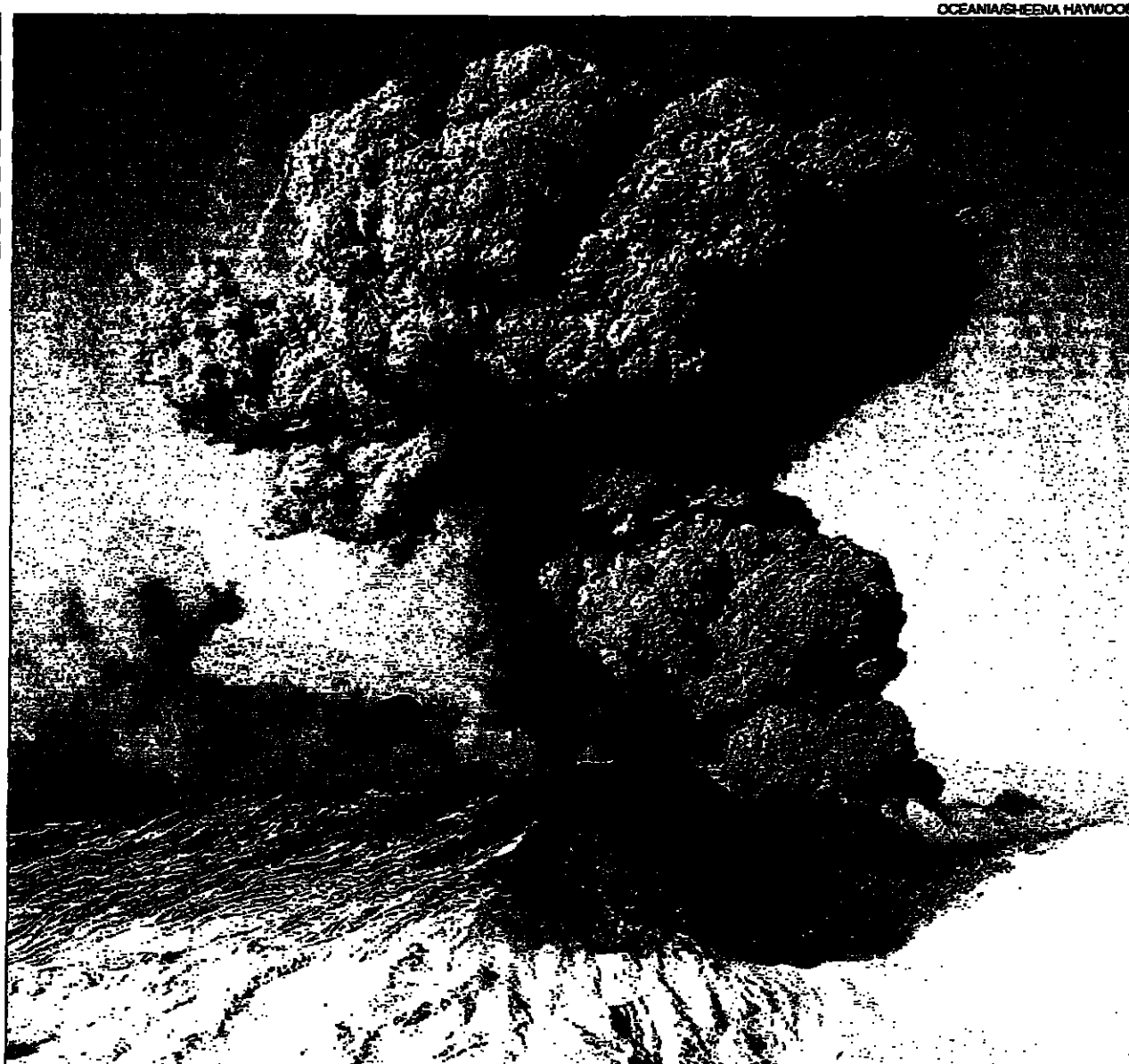
Gary Streeter, a minister in the Lord Chancellor's Department, made clear at the beginning of the debate that the Government was in conciliatory mood. He backed rightwing backbenchers' demands for separating couples to be encouraged to undergo counselling and promised government funding. "This Bill is an investment in strong, stable marriages," he said. "The final arguments came

after months of acrimony that had seen rebel Tory backbenchers force the Government to accept an extended cooling-off period before divorce, although they failed to retain the concept of fault. The Government has also agreed to Opposition demands for greater protection for children and battered women.

Ministers' attempts to win over MPs opposed to the Bill on religious grounds were backed yesterday by Church of England bishops, who said the existing law was "deeply unsatisfactory because it causes unnecessary pain and bitterness and enables 'quickie' divorces based on alleged fault". The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, said: "We cannot be sure how well the proposals before Parliament will work in practice, but I and my fellow bishops believe that many positive things would be lost if the Bill were to fail."

The Law Society has claimed that couples and children would be hurt by the "complexities, inflexibility and uncertainty built into the Bill". But Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, said: "We have done everything we can to produce a Bill which is sensible and takes account of as many different points of view as possible." He denied that he would resign if the legislation failed to pass through the Commons.

Matthew Parris, page 2
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The eruption of Mount Ruapehu in New Zealand's north island has covered the nearby town of Turangi in volcanic ash. The Scottish rugby tourists had to call off a training session in Rotorua, 80 miles away. Page 15

Briton shot in Florida car can sue

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, TRAVEL CORRESPONDENT

A BRITISH holidaymaker shot by muggers in Miami can sue the car hire company, her travel agent and tour operator for failing to warn her that the rented car's number plates would make her a "sitting duck" in some areas of the city, the Florida Court of Appeal has ruled.

Patricia Shurben took a Virgin "fly-drive" holiday to Florida with a man friend in February 1992 which she

booked through the Lunn Poly travel agency. She and the friend picked up a Dollar Rent-a-Car at Miami airport which carried special number plates recognisable by locals as belonging to tourists.

Driving from the airport the pair lost their way and their car was surrounded by four armed youths who ordered them both to get out. In an attempt to get away, Miss Shurben's friend swerved

around the gang, at least one of whom then opened fire. Miss Shurben, a 40-year-old divorced mother from the West Country, was hit in the back. The bullet is still there — doctors fear that if it is removed she could lose the use of her left arm.

Miss Shurben's American lawyer, George Mustakas, included both Lunn Poly and Virgin in the action together with Dollar, hoping to bring

them within American, rather than British, jurisdiction. His original application to the Florida District Court failed.

Both Lunn Poly and Virgin Holidays said yesterday that they would fight the judgment.

Since the incident Florida has changed the law so that hire cars carry the same number plates as local vehicles.

Zoos criticised, Page 5

Third man in Russian poll is courted by Yeltsin

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

ALEKSANDR LEBED, who came third in Russia's presidential elections, appears destined for a powerful role as security chief.

As final results in the election confirmed that there had been no outright winner, the Kremlin set out to woo the former paratrooper general and the 15 per cent of the electorate who voted for him. His support in next month's run-off between Mr Yeltsin and Gennadi Zyuganov, his Communist challenger, is vital.

Mr Yeltsin met General Lebed yesterday. No details of the talks were revealed, but Viktor Chernomyrdin, the Prime Minister, said that General Lebed would be welcome either in the Government or in a job directly answerable to the President.

Aleksandr Shokhin, a parliamentarian for the pro-Yeltsin Our Home is Russia party, said the Kremlin was ready to offer General Lebed a newly created position with the rank of Deputy Prime Minister. The post would control the "power agencies" — the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of the Interior and the intelligence services.

In addition, General Lebed could expect to be made secretary of the Presidential Security Council, which decides Russia's security policy. The responsibilities envisaged are thought to be precisely tailored to General Lebed's campaign promise to crack down on crime and corruption and radically reform the army.

If he accepted the Yeltsin offer, he would be catapulted from his present position as a relatively minor political figure to that of the second most powerful man in Russia.

Kremlin kingmaker, page 14
Leading article, page 19

Medicine price war at Asda

Asda, the supermarket group, has begun selling 33 medicines and vitamins at less than half the price of branded equivalents.

As part of its campaign to end Resale Price Maintenance on drugs Asda's own-brand paracetamol sells at 24p for a pack of 24 compared with £1.72 for a pack of Panadol. Page 6

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Blair plan for German-style reforms of industrial policy

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

SHAREHOLDERS will be given the right to vote on pay packages for executives under sweeping business reforms planned by Labour.

Institutional shareholders such as pension funds and insurance companies would be forced to disclose their voting records at annual meetings, while companies would be encouraged to set up German-style boards including workers' representatives.

The confidential proposals follow Labour's criticism of the Government's response to the furore over "fat cat" executive packages. They form part of a document drawn up by Gordon Brown, the shadow Chancellor, Margaret Beckett, the shadow Industry Secre-

tary, and overseen by Tony Blair's office.

The paper, entitled a *New Industrial Policy for Britain*, has been seen by *The Times*. Labour is expected to publish the plan before Parliament rises next month and details will go to the annual conference in Blackpool.

The plan emphasises the importance of improving Britain's competitiveness and investment record. It is undergoing final revision to take in proposals from Labour's national policy forum, and to take account of the Government's latest White Paper on competitiveness, published last week.

The document fleshes out Mr Blair's vision of a "stake-

holder society" and avoids the large-scale interventionism which has characterised previous Labour policies towards industry. It prefers instead what it calls a "practical approach" and stresses the need for partnership with business.

It proposes a new Companies Act which "will, among other things, allow two-tier boards to be set up on a voluntary basis" in a move which goes some way towards adopting Germany's corporate structure.

A panel on corporate governance will be established to examine the role of non-executive directors.

Stakeholder policy, page 31

French turn against UK over beef ban

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

JOHN MAJOR's hopes of a swift end to the beef crisis suffered a serious setback last night when President Chirac of France reversed his sympathetic stance and promised to take a tougher line over Britain's "insufficiently rigorous" plan to eradicate BSE.

The French Government has come under intense domestic pressure to uphold the beef ban at the Florence summit on Friday after last week's public outcry over the continued export to France of thousands of tonnes of suspect animal feed even though it was banned from sale in Britain in 1988.

EU pressure, page 2

Sir Fitzroy Maclean 'the real James Bond' dies aged 85

By ALAN HAMILTON

SIR FITZROY MACLEAN, one of the enduring legends of the Second World War, a founder member of the SAS, and the reputed model for James Bond, has died from a heart attack at the age of 85.

Sir Fitzroy collapsed after taking a swim while visiting friends in Hertfordshire on Saturday. He will be buried near his home at Strachur, on Loch Fyne, where he and his wife ran a hotel.

Sir Fitzroy, a career diplomat until he became an MP, is best remembered as the man parachuted into Yugoslavia in 1943 to make contact with Tito's partisans, after advising Churchill that they were a better bet as allies than the rival Chetniks. He fought



Maclean: role model

alongside Tito to liberate Belgrade from the Germans, and remained there after the war as British representative.

Sir Fitzroy was an inveterate traveller and wrote the book *Eastern Approaches* after a

series of illegal wanderings through Soviet Central Asia. Although a friend of the author Ian Fleming, he never confirmed or denied the persistent rumour that he was the real 007. He always claimed that he had never been a spy and his son, Charles, said he held the intelligence services in a fair degree of contempt, describing them as "a bureaucratic muddle full of overgrown boy scouts".

He received as good as he gave, notably from Churchill, who described him as "the man who used the Mother of Parliaments as a public convenience" after he became a Tory MP solely to get out of the Foreign Office and into active service.

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Some sympathetic marriage guidance for those on a sticky wicket

GARY STREETER walked out to the crease yesterday, his cricket whites whiter than white, his pads unscuffed. As the just-appointed Home Office minister in charge of the Divorce Bill, Streeter was the Government's opening bat in its Commons Test.

It was also his first front-bench outing. Not just the Bill's prospects, but his own too, hinged on success. You may know when you read this whether the MP for Plymouth Sutton returns to the pavilion this morning with the cheers

or jeers of the crowd ringing in his ears. If the Bill has survived, then the cloud which has obscured the former Welsh minister Rod Richards had a silver lining. It was Richards's resignation (after title-tattle in the *News of the World*) which ricocheted through into the reshuffle which elevated Streeter to the post of minister.

It was a canny appointment. His predecessor in the job had done well, but Streeter has special qualities. He is a convinced churchgoer with

traditional Christian attitudes to marriage: a pleasant and popular young MP who, until now, has worked as the Whip on this Bill: a go-between, trying to reconcile the Tory moral Right with a measure which has looked in some respects too liberal for some. He appears to be trusted by both sides.

Watching Streeter it struck us that he would make an excellent marriage guidance counsellor. He explained his Bill's merits to doubters with a light tone: courteous and sym-



MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

pathetic, always interested, never vindictive. John Patten, a critic of the Bill, sat, arms akimbo, looking sulky, but did not walk out. Streeter remained professional, unjudgmental, building bridges with new clauses. It seemed ironic that it was for a Divorce Bill that the caring Mr Streeter had been asked to make one

final attempt to conciliate between the Tory sides.

Streeter has been seeing them separately for quiet chats. Yesterday he was seeing them together, urging them to have one last try at making a go of it in the division lobby.

On more issues than this, Streeter and his boss at Number 10 are hoping the Tory

partners can endure just a few weeks more together: after that a long summer holiday could help the healing process. Can they do it? We shall see. *The Times* correspondence columns that morning had carried a letter from David Winnick MP (Walsall N) lamenting the absence of straight parliamentary reporting in the press. I sympathise. Amid the dross, lucid flashes occur which, like lightning, illuminate the era. One such, yesterday, came from John Butcher (C, Coventry SW) to

William Hague. Hague, a cool and impressive Welsh Secretary, had just announced an inquiry into child abuse at children's homes. Butcher, however, was sceptical. "Does my Rt hon friend recall the outcome of the inquiries that took place after the Orkney and Cleveland scandals? Can I say to him that I feel slightly nervous about the format proposed today? In the past, when this format has been used and local bureaucracies challenged, at the end of the day no individual seemed to be re-

sponsible for anything. No one was sacked, or taken to task, or held responsible. "Could he give us an assurance that, in this inquiry, accountability will be established through the sacking and prosecution of people who have either been incompetent, or plain evil? Accountability means individual accountability for actions. We don't need to hear about practices, procedures, guidelines and resources. This inquiry has to find the people who did wrong."

Howard proposes strict watch on freed paedophiles

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

EXTENSIVE curbs on sex offenders, including a national register and banning convicted paedophiles from applying for jobs with children, were proposed by the Government yesterday in a package designed to halt repeat attacks.

The proposals go much further than the national register of paedophiles which Michael Howard had been expected to announce. More than 3,000 jailed sex offenders would have to give a DNA sample and offenders, including paedophiles, would be more closely supervised on leaving prison.

Their names would be put on a register allowing police to track their movements throughout England and Wales. It would be an offence not to inform the police of a change of address. The requirement to register would be for life for anyone given a life sentence or prison term of more than 30 months.

Probation staff would supervise released sex offenders,

including requiring them to join treatment programmes and to live in bail hostels or to monitor their movements.

The Home Secretary is also proposing to prevent paedophiles from working with children, including voluntary help with organisations such as the Scouts, by making it an offence for them to look for a job involving access to children.

People accused or convicted of sexual offences would have restricted access to victims' statements and photographs in an attempt to stop them being used or traded as pornography in prisons. Access to the material would be provided by a defendant's lawyer. It would be an offence for the accused, the lawyer or any other person to breach the new regulations. The maximum punishment would be two years in jail.

Mr Howard said the proposals, which will also cover juveniles convicted of sex offences, were designed to pro-

tect the public with greatest protection.

"Such crimes can have a devastating effect on the victim. Of all the crimes which are committed, sex offences constitute a category which causes more alarm than practically any other," he said at the launch of a consultation paper, *Sentencing and Supervision of Sex Offenders*.

The document will form the basis of proposals which are likely to be included in the Bill for the next parliamentary session to bring in automatic life sentences for second-time violent and serious sexual offenders and minimum terms for third-time domestic burglars and drug dealers.

All the proposals, except for the new offence of seeking work involving access to children, would apply to people convicted of offences including intercourse with a girl under 13, intercourse or indecent assault on a woman or a man, abduction of a woman, causing prostitution of a woman, detention of a woman in a brothel and indecent conduct towards a child under 14.

The proposals would not cover people cautioned about sexual offences. Last year there were 8,000 prosecutions for sexual offences and 4,500 convictions.

Last night the proposals drew a broad welcome from Labour and the probation service though Liberty, the civil rights organisation, expressed concern that the national register could include a 16-year-old teenager convicted of consensual sex with a girl aged 15.

Harry Fletcher, assistant general secretary of the National Association of Probation Officers, said that substantial costs would be involved in providing close supervision for paedophiles whose behaviour was compulsive.



Tony Blair with Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, in Bonn yesterday

EU to demand wider cull in return for beef deal

By CHARLES BREMNER IN ROME, JILL SHERMAN IN BONN AND PHILIP WEBSTER

SEVERAL members of the European Union demanded tougher measures over BSE yesterday, including a much wider cull of cattle, if John Major is to be granted a deal at the forthcoming Florence summit to end the "beef war".

The foreign ministers of Germany, France and other countries, meeting in Rome, endorsed the conditions, which will be formally proposed by the European Commission today.

The Government made plain last night that it was considering calls for the slaughter of an additional 20,000 cattle to take the figure to 100,000. But the plan, which might face strong opposition from Tory Euro-sceptics, was being looked at only in the context of an overall agreement.

The move came as Tony Blair called on the Government to redouble its efforts to have the ban on beef exports lifted and signalled that Labour was preparing to withdraw its support for the non-cooperation policy. During a minute meeting with Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, in Bonn, Mr Blair argued that the British Government should be pressing for both a timescale for the ban to be lifted and for extra compensation for the British slaughtering programme. He indicated that if Mr Major failed to

achieve these objectives at the European summit in Florence, which starts on Friday, Labour would withdraw its support for the Government's policy.

EU ministers, weary and frustrated over Mr Major's non-cooperation policy, made clear they were in no mood to offer anything that Mr Major could claim as a victory for his tactics. Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, rejected new calls to end the non-cooperation drive, but he also offered an inducement for accord at Florence in the form of a promise to give Britain's blessing to the long-stalled machinery for setting up Europol, the European police intelligence system.

The Commission's "framework" for the eventual lifting



Rifkind: hope for accord

of the ban adds new conditions to Britain's original plan. It rejects Britain's wish for a rapid lifting of the global embargo on exports. The plan also goes well beyond Britain's offer of a selective cull of some 80,000 animals, dating back to those born since 1990. French officials were talking of a figure close to half a million, although the Commission's experts are only pressing for an extra 20,000 to be killed, and British officials said yesterday that ministers' minds were not closed on the latter proposal.

However, the culling programme will have to be approved by the Commons. It is clear that any plan to increase the figure would be bitterly resisted unless the Prime Minister can return from Florence with what Tory MPs would regard as a satisfactory deal.

Under the Commission plan, powers of supervision will also be given to a new "super-committee" of experts from various disciplines. The Commission plan contains stringent scientific criteria for monitoring each stage of the eventual lifting. Jacques Santer, the Commission president, emphasised that the crisis could not be resolved "with a quick fix." The framework was not a timetable and agreement at Florence would not be legally binding.

Asians pay price of political correctness

Political correctness and administrative muddle have left hundreds of thousands of immigrants unable to lead a normal life because of their inability to speak English, Government advisers reported yesterday. The first objective research on ethnic minorities' English skills showed that three quarters of adults born outside the United Kingdom have very limited command of the language. The Basic Skills Agency estimates that 450,000 immigrants from Bangladesh, China, India and Pakistan know too little English to get a job or play a full part in society.

Alan Wells, the agency's Director, said that teaching English to ethnic minorities had been seen as racist at the time when many of those with the most severe difficulties arrived in Britain. "We were so worried about our colonial past that we became reticent about telling people they need English to survive effectively in this country," Mr Wells said. That English teaching was the "poor relation" in many local authorities, with little money available for classes. The result was haphazard and inadequate language provision, in which most of those taking English lessons received too little tuition to master the language. Almost 40 per cent of Bengali and Punjabi speakers scored zero in basic English tests.

More surgery cancelled

A record 55,000 hospital operations were cancelled last year, compared with 48,000 in 1994. The last-minute cancellations were made for non-medical reasons such as a shortage of beds and reflect the NHS's continuing struggle to accommodate the growth in emergency admissions. Labour, which obtained the figures in answer to parliamentary questions, claimed the increase would drive more patients into private healthcare.

Building death arrests

Two men have been arrested after a coroner in Bristol blamed cowboy builders for the suicide of Thomas Dando, 70, who paid them £4,000 to rebuild a small wall in his garden. Paul Forrest returned a verdict of unlawful killing at the inquest on the former office worker, found hanging from banisters in his home. Police said a white van had been traced to Yeovil, where the driver, 27, and his passenger, 17, had been questioned before being released on bail.

Labour rebels' party

A group of rebel Labour councillors in Walsall, West Midlands, formed their own political party last night, with the declared aim of splitting the left-wing vote in their area and helping Tories to win seats there at the next general election. The rebels' leader, "Citizen" Dave Church, and 14 others of the 34-strong Labour group, were expelled by the party last year after trying to decentralise the authority by setting up 55 local council offices round the borough.

Priest abused boys

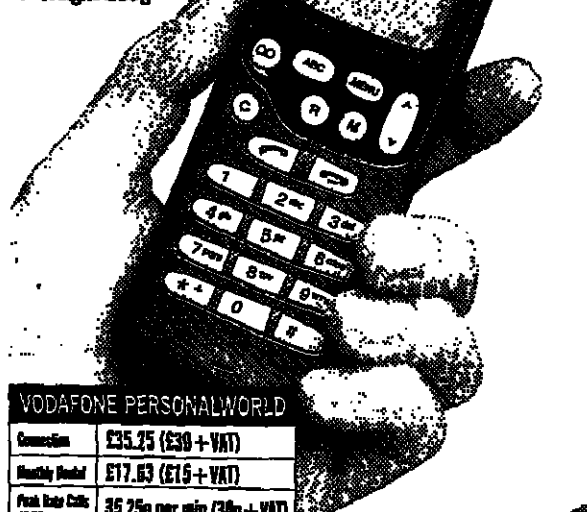
An Irish priest was found guilty yesterday of systematically abusing boys in his care. The 48-year-old priest, who cannot be named to protect the identity of his victims, was convicted at Dublin Criminal Court of eight charges of sexually abusing four boys, including an altar boy. Most of the offences took place in the priest's bedroom at his home in Killybegny but some took place in a lodging house when he took two boys to Galway races. He will be sentenced later.

Thieves in distress

A group of thieves was caught when they threw a distress beacon overboard as they burgled a fishing boat. The device was activated by the water and began emitting SOS signals which were picked up by a US weather satellite. A message was passed via the coastguard control in Plymouth to local coastguards who became suspicious when records showed the boat was moored in Inverness harbour. The police were alerted and made three arrests.

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Record bid helped by desert king

By ALAN COPPS

THE British team attempting to push the land-speed record beyond the speed of sound has been given a boost by King Hussein of Jordan. The monarch has offered Richard Noble, who already holds the record at 633mph, a 14-mile track in the Jordanian desert on which to test Thrust SSC, the twin-jet powered car in which Andy Green, 33, an RAF fighter pilot, will try to break the sound barrier in September.

The seven-ton car, powered by two Rolls-Royce Spey engines of the type used in RAF Phantoms, is undergoing final assembly at the Defence Research Agency in Farnborough, Hampshire. The vehicle will be shipped to Jordan by air next month for four weeks of tests on its engines, aerodynamics and computer systems. A record attempt could be staged in Jordan.

In September Thrust SSC will be shipped to the Black Rock Desert in Nevada, where it will make a series of attempts at up to 850mph in a head-to-head confrontation with the American contender, Spirit of America, driven by veteran record breaker Craig Breedlove.

Blunkett's school meal pledge

By JOHN O'LEARY

LABOUR would reintroduce national minimum standards of nutrition for school meals, David Blunkett, the Shadow Education and Employment Secretary, told a union conference yesterday.

A decline in the standard and take-up of school meals is threatening children's health at a time when growing numbers of pupils need more nourishment, Mr Blunkett told members of Unison. The union represents many ancillary staff in schools.

Those who did take school meals opted increasingly for chips with everything. Others were drawn to the local "chippie", with many tempted to play truant subsequently. In a speech to the union's annual conference in Bourne-mouth, Mr Blunkett said school meals provided a vital source of nutrition for many children. One in nine started the day without breakfast and one in six had no cooked evening meal at home.

Mr Blunkett said: "School meals are a fundamental part of the school day but short-term savings may be doing damage to the health, well-being and educational performance of our children."

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Husband threw wife overboard in stormy relationship

By Gillian Bowditch
SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

A BUSINESSMAN whose marriage was going through a stormy phase dumped his coffee, his liquor and then his wife over the side of his yacht during a heated argument, a court was told.

Michael John Abram, 39, director of a Scottish waste recycling company, was fined £500 for the indignity and humiliation suffered by his wife Fiona, 34, when he

picked her up on their boat Megabux and pitched her into the sea off the island of Arran. Abram, a director of the family firm, John W. Hannay, who gave his address as care of the East Kilbride company, was originally charged with attempted murder. This was reduced to assault and breach of the peace. He admitted the latter yesterday but denied the former. Donald Findlay, QC, for the defence, told Kilmarnock Sheriff Court that when the incident hap-

pened last July, Abram and his wife, who have two children, were "going through a difficult time in their marriage". On the day in question, Abram had returned to the family home at Kingscross Bay on Arran after a visit to nearby Lamlash with friends. He returned home at 7pm and there was an argument about the length of time he had been away. Mr Findlay said the argument was "fairly circular in nature" and Abram walked away and went down to his boat. "Two hours later

Mrs Abram came down to the shore and demanded, in earthy terms, to be taken on board." Abram let her on and went to make coffee.

Over coffee and liqueurs on the deck of Megabux, the couple began to argue about Abram's decision to walk away from the first argument. "It was fairly heated with giving as much as getting on both sides," Mr Findlay said.

In frustration, Abram picked up the coffee cups and liqueur glasses and threw them over the side. When

his wife protested that the crockery was a present from her parents, Mr Abram said: "If you want the damned cups you get them." He then threw his wife over as well.

Debbie Carroll, deputy fiscal for the prosecution, told the court that the water was about 12ft deep and the boat was anchored 35yds from the shore. Mrs Abram, wearing cycling shorts, a T-shirt, a sheepskin jacket and training shoes, managed to swim for the shore while calling out for help. The following day she

reported the matter to the police. Mr Findlay said the couple had separated after the incident but had become reconciled. "Lessons have been learnt on all sides," he said. "Mr Abram acted in a way which was not dangerous to his wife. He accepts that he let his temper get the better of him."

Imposing a £500 fine, Sheriff John Dean told Abram: "I have taken into account the fact that your wife did not suffer serious injury and that you are back together."

Don't mix drink and sport, says scientist

By John Goodbody
SPORTS NEWS
CORRESPONDENT

AMBITIOUS sportsmen should be teetotal, so as not to risk harming their performances, a leading scientist says today.

In the furor over the drinking habits of the England football squad, Professor Timothy Peters of King's College London, says that, because there is "no clear threshold" over how much alcohol would affect a performance, it was better to abstain completely.

Professor Peters disputes the view of Ron Maughan, Professor of Human Physiology at Aberdeen University, who said last week that he had "great sympathy" with Terry Venables, the England coach, who had allowed his players to drink in moderation during a night off from the European championship.

Professor Peters, editor-in-chief of *Addiction Biology*, says in a letter to *The Times* today: "Long-term misuse of alcohol preferentially damages white fibres, necessary for short sprints and jumping sports. This damage can occur within the 'safe limits' introduced by the Government. These effects are most marked in the trunk and thigh muscles and would impair the 'finishing' of goal scorers."

Last December, the Department of Health altered its guidelines, suggesting that for men the limits should be 21 units a week, with a maximum of four units a day. However, this was widely misinterpreted as being 28 units a week. Professor Peters commented: "The perception is that the Government has raised the limits."

A unit of alcohol is half a pint of beer, a glass of wine or one measure of spirits.

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Woman had nightmares after stripprogram stunt

By Emma Wilkins

A WOMAN executive suffered the same kind of trauma as a rape victim after male colleagues ordered a stripprogram publicly to humiliate her, an industrial tribunal was told yesterday.

Gail Steele, 44, from Fulham, west London, showed classic signs of post-traumatic shock disorder, including flashbacks and nightmares after her "birthday surprise" in February last year.

Ms Steele, who earned £60,000 a year, was the only senior woman director with Optika Opticians in Harrow, northwest London, when she was dismissed days after the stripprogram burst into her office. The incident, which had been planned by male colleagues, began when the muscular stripper handcuffed her to a desk before producing a tureen and baby oil.

As the all-male group jeered and shouted, the stripper removed his underwear and lifted Ms Steele over his shoulder with her head dangling in his lap, the central London tribunal was told. Ayes Virides, a director, peeled a banana and waved it at Ms Steele as the stripprogram made for the exit, the hearing was told. Ms Steele, who broke down in tears when she

recounted the incident to her husband, is claiming sexual discrimination. Two further claims for wrongful and unfair dismissal will be considered by other hearings.

Ms Steele's husband David Newlove was so incensed that he telephoned the stripprogram company and demanded details of the order. He discovered that the instructions from Optika had been specific: the stripper must be black, the victim must be blindfolded and completely humiliated. "I telephoned the

Gillian Mezey, a psychiatrist who examined Ms Steele, said: "This is at the severe end of the spectrum of trauma. Her reaction was very similar to a sexual assault victim or bomb victim. It's extremely embarrassing for a woman to be assaulted in full view of the workplace in a situation that was totally unexpected and out of context."

"Miss Steele, in my view, suffered post-traumatic stress disorder. She suffered recurring thoughts and nightmares which was a form of experi-

enced the original trauma." Andrew Clarke, counsel for Optika, suggested that Ms Steele's depression may have been due to her dismissal rather than the stripprogram. But Dr Mezey told the hearing that incidents in Ms Steele's dreams, including vivid pictures of the naked stripprogram, were directly related to that incident.

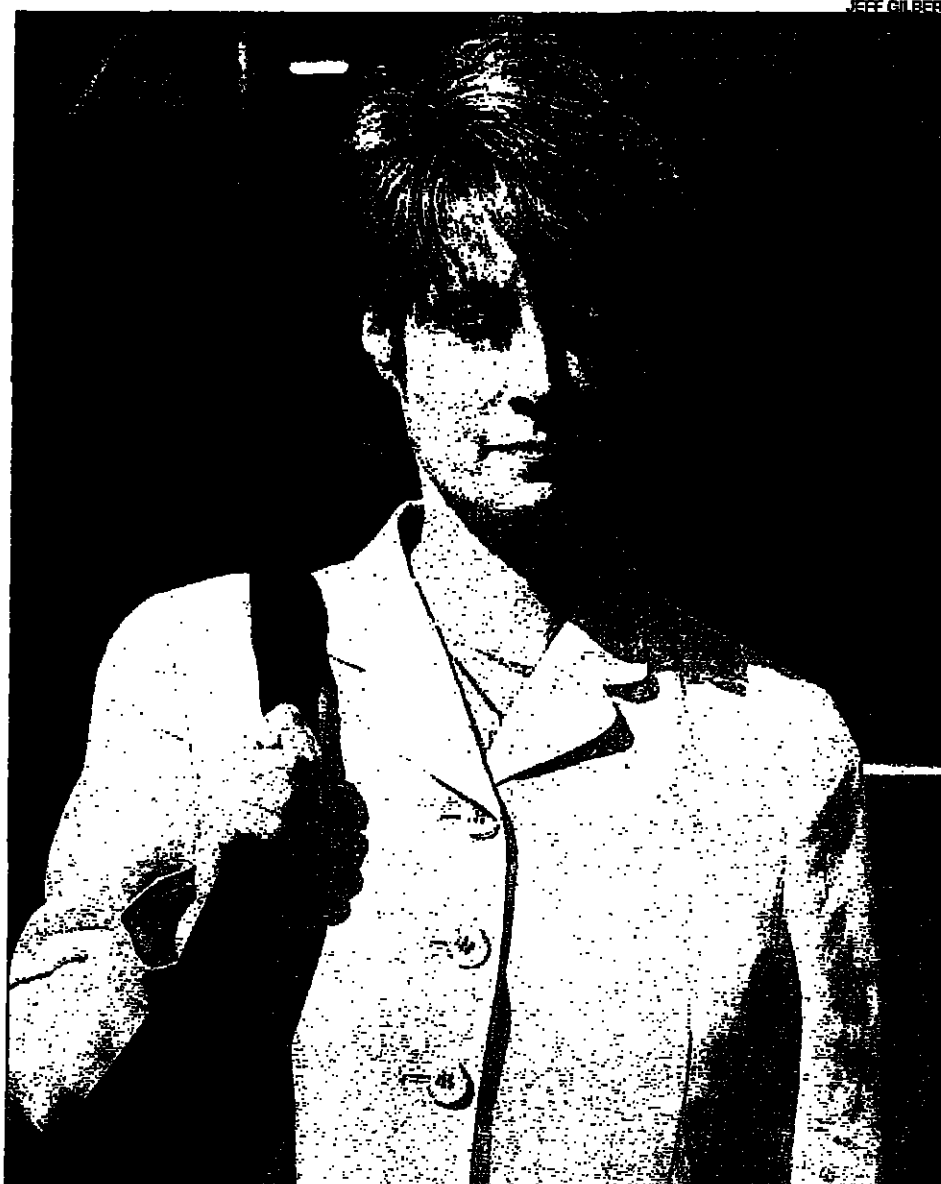
Earl Thomas, 23, who has left his stripprogram job and works in a fancy dress shop, has offered Ms Steele his apologies. Earlier the tribunal

was told that Syrrrel Lehman, a client of Ms Steele's, was appalled when she witnessed the strip. "Gail was in great distress. I saw her skin colour-tone change."

"I had seen the young man enter. I saw the screaming and laughing and I saw the position she was in. It seemed terribly inappropriate and I was appalled. Because I was just a visitor it would have been out of order for me to take a personal stance against this."

Miss Steele told the tribunal that she was told by Mr Virides that an interviewee, Paul Cannon, would be coming to the office and she was given a copy of his CV. "When he arrived I started asking questions. He leapt across the desk and handcuffed me."

The hearing was adjourned until September.



Gail Steele was thrown over the stripprogram's shoulder and handcuffed to a desk

Her reaction was similar to a sexual assault or bomb victim in that she suffered recurring thoughts and nightmares

stripprogram director, Michael Phillips, and asked him about what happened. "Mr Newlove told the hearing."

"He remembered the case because he was given specific instructions. He told me that the company telephoned a week later to complain the stripper had not gone far enough."

"He also told me it was very unusual to have that kind of striptease in the middle of the day in an office. He had even been asked to have Gail blindfolded," he added. Dr

ending the original trauma." Andrew Clarke, counsel for Optika, suggested that Ms Steele's depression may have been due to her dismissal rather than the stripprogram. But Dr Mezey told the hearing that incidents in Ms Steele's dreams, including vivid pictures of the naked stripprogram, were directly related to that incident.

Earl Thomas, 23, who has left his stripprogram job and works in a fancy dress shop, has offered Ms Steele his apologies. Earlier the tribunal

Women win right to be heard in male-voice choir

By Ruth Gledhill, Religion Correspondent

AN OXFORD college abandoned 400 years of tradition yesterday when its governing body voted to replace its men-only choir with a mixed choir of college members.

In an act condemned as "cultural vandalism", Exeter College, founded in 1314, decided that from October 1998 it will do without the services of the 13 boys from Christ Church cathedral school who sing in the choir. Instead, it will offer four choral awards to men and women each year in an attempt to draw women into the heart of chapel life.

The change is partly an attempt to attract more students into the chapel for Sunday worship. At present, as few as eight or nine

undergraduates, turn up for services, while others prefer one of the lively churches outside the university.

Susan Marshall, the college bursar, said: "This is not a discriminatory issue at all. It is a matter of being inclusive where worship is concerned. The problem at the moment is that we do not get many members of the junior body coming into chapel."

Ms Marshall added: "One of the factors is that the choir is an all-male choir. Half the people who belong to the college do not get the chance to sing in the chapel choir. But that is not the issue. The issue is to allow more people to feel included in the worship."

Charles Cole, 21, a senior

organ scholar, accused the college of cultural vandalism. "I cannot really believe what they have done," he said. "There are not enough good women singers in Oxford to support the number of mixed choirs already here."

Most Oxford colleges, apart from New College, Christ Church and Magdalen, already have mixed choirs.

Exeter's rector, Dr Marilyn Butler, who was the first female head of a former male Oxford college when appointed in 1994, said: "The college does not intend to spend less on the choir, nor to alter its commitment to the choral tradition, as may have been feared by some junior members."

Alleged drug dealer 'has no right to buy'

By a Staff Reporter

A COUNCIL has taken a case to the Court of Appeal to try to stop an alleged drugs dealer using "dirty money" to buy his fortified council house.

Lord Woolf, the new Master of the Rolls, sitting with Lord Justice Hobhouse and Lord Justice Morritt, was asked to block a man known as "L" — who is in prison awaiting trial on drugs offences — from taking advantage of the Government's right-to-buy legislation.

The case was brought by Bristol City Council, which will be forced to transfer the house where L, in his late 40s, has been a tenant since 1974, unless it can overturn a county court judge's order that he is entitled to the freehold.

Robert Levy, appearing for

the council, said: "It could not have been the intention of Parliament that a gentleman in the position of the respondent (L) should by dint of his labours in selling drugs at all hours of the day and night be able to purchase a property (a) at all, and (b) at a discount."

Mr Levy asked the court to overturn an order of Judge Butterbury at Bristol County Court in July last year that the house be transferred to L for £16,660 under the provisions of the 1985 Housing Act.

But Alexander Ralton, appearing for L, said it was a "classic case" of a secure tenant having established his right to buy.

Lord Woolf said the court would take time to consider its decision.

Theologian on sex charges claims church persecution

By Gillian Bowditch, Scotland Correspondent

A THEOLOGIAN who faces five charges of indecently assaulting women told a court yesterday that he was the victim of a vendetta by ministers of the Free Church of Scotland.

Professor Donald Macleod, 55, said a campaign had been waged against him for more than ten years. He told Edinburgh Sheriff Court that three internal investigations into his conduct by the Church had cleared him of impropriety, but despite that a minority of church leaders had continued to call for his censure.

He said rumours about him were spread by senior conservative churchmen, notably the Rev John Murray, minister of St Columba's Free Church in

Edinburgh, where Professor Macleod was a member from 1980 to 1993. The rumours came to a head in 1987 when Professor Macleod received a letter from a minister alleging that he had had an affair while visiting Australia.

Professor Macleod said that while he had had a strong emotional relationship with the woman concerned, "like brother and sister", there was no "sinful relationship".

There were rumblings within part of the Church about his "incipient liberalism and modernism", he said. He had been criticised for appearing at a conference in Northern Ireland where a Roman Catholic priest was also a speaker. The Free Church's articles of faith

calls the Pope "the man of sin", a sentiment which Professor Macleod said he did not share.

The most serious charges involve a 35-year-old senior lecturer in statistics who alleges the professor fondled her beneath her clothing. Professor Macleod said that he first met her when he was preaching at a conference in Shropshire. She was "upfront and clingy". He gave her no encouragement but found her difficult to deter. "She had a very strong personality."

He denied assaulting her when she subsequently visited his college rooms in Edinburgh or after giving her lift back to the city after a preaching appointment in Dunblane. The trial before continues.

Council scuppers admiral's dream of the quiet life

By Russell Jenkins

FOR Rear-Admiral Tim England, veteran of the Falklands and many a Whitehall action, the job should have been plain sailing. When he stepped down in 1994 from his £60,000-a-year job with the Navy, he chose a backwater, halving his salary, as harbour master of the River Hamble in Warsash, Hampshire.

The admiral was supposed to look after the moorings and keep the waterways safe for weekend yachting enthusiasts. But the man who masterminded complex legislation to put Wrens on to warships just could not take orders. Last week his employers, Hampshire County Council, sacked him on the spot for clashing once too often with authority. His employers did not take to him criticising their management style and

accusations of being "out of touch and too slow". Two council officers turned up last Wednesday to strip him of his office and hand over his outstanding pay.

A campaign to save the harbour master was immediately launched among the wealthy boating fraternity on the Hamble. One yacht owner said: "He was held in very high regard. People who sail here admired both his professionalism. He has an impressive pedigree which made him more than capable of doing the job."

Admiral England, 54, who lives with his wife Anne near Portsmouth, said: "The main problem is the people at the county council who are supposed to run the river do not understand the river. I have had a constant battle with them."

"I was a bit surprised by my dismissal. I had expected to be able to find a way of resolving the problem amicably." The Navy and the council were both cumbersome bureaucracies, he said, but the Navy was "interested in expertise".

Tim Greenwood, the council's planning officer, said: "The reason for the dismissal was continued failure to act or respond to reasonable management requests leading to a breakdown in working relationships with other county council colleagues."



Rear-Admiral England

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Inspector urges tourists to shun Florida zoos

By PETER FOSTER

ZOOS and animal attractions in Florida, the Sunshine State visited by more than a million Britons every year, have been accused by a British zoo inspector of keeping animals in terrible conditions.

In a report published yesterday by the World Society for the Protection of Animals, only two out of 21 zoos inspected by a society vet passed minimum standards for animal welfare in Britain.

John Gripper, a zoo inspector since 1984 and a director of the group, found chimpanzees in filthy, rusted cages, alligators being dragged around by their tails with children on their backs and an African elephant chained in a concrete house the size of a garage.

Dr Gripper inspected what he called "tacky roadside zoos", run with tiny staffs, and big attractions such as Sea World in Orlando and Busch Gardens in Tampa Bay.

At Noel's Ark Chimp Farm in Tarpon Springs, Dr Gripper found that most of the cages for chimpanzees, gorillas and orang-utans were barren, without any logs,



An alligator on show at a zoo in Everglades City

branches, ropes or swings for the animals. The chimps were seen to beg visitors for food, which was described in the report as an "abnormal interaction". Chimps often spat water or threw faeces at members of the public. Dr Gripper said the zoo would have failed an inspection under the British Zoo Licensing Act.

Everglades Alligator Farm, in Homestead, fared no better under British standards on animal welfare. The alligators on display appeared to be in good health but the report

criticised alligator wrestling shows put on to amuse school parties.

The report adds: "A number of tricks were demonstrated, including the keeper putting his head into the alligator's mouth and poking it in the eye and nostrils. A smaller alligator, which had black tape around its mouth, was produced from a bucket and thrown into the air before being handed round for members of the audience to hold."

"During feeding the keeper seemed to get pleasure by repeatedly and unnecessarily hitting the alligator on the nose with a plastic bucket to the amusement of the public."

The farm's best "Gator Nuggets" were prominently advertised for the peckish.

Even Sea World in Orlando, one of the most popular animal attractions for tourists, did not escape criticism. Although the animals all appeared to be in good health, with impressive facilities, Dr Gripper was concerned that the public were encouraged to feed the dolphins and sea lions, causing them to beg unnaturally. Dr Gripper served his judgment on the

marine park until a more detailed inspection could be carried out. The Born Free Foundation, an animal welfare organisation set up by actors who starred in the film *Born Free*, has reported that 13 killer whales died at Sea World between 1986 and 1990.

From the 21 zoos inspected, only Busch Gardens and Jungle Larry's Zoological Park in Naples, Florida, would have passed a British inspection.

Dr Gripper said yesterday that he hoped tourists visiting Florida zoos and others in the United States would be more critical and selective about which they visited. "I have inspected zoos in many countries and I am disappointed to find that in the USA, one of the richest countries in the world, the standards of animal welfare are so low."

Dr Gripper said that alligator wrestling and similar animal performances had no educational value and should be banned. He also called for measures to stop the trade in unwanted zoo animals to research laboratories or to hunting ranches for "canned hunts".



A chimpanzee behind bars at Noel's Ark Chimp Farm

Environmentalists call for ban on killing small whales

By NICK NUTTALL, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

THOUSANDS of small whales, dolphins and porpoises are being killed because of lax rules and flagrant breaches of international agreements, environmentalists claimed yesterday.

As the International Whaling Commission meets in Aberdeen for its annual conference, animal charities are demanding a halt to hunting dolphins and porpoises and the trade in their meat. Their report also calls on the commission to introduce tougher controls on fisheries. They include a crackdown on illegal Irish drift-netting which, it is claimed, can kill up to 50 Atlantic white-sided dolphins in a single trawl.

Drift-nets, large versions of which were banned by the United Nations in 1992, continue to claim the lives of thousands of small whales, dolphins and porpoises around the world. Some fishing fleets, including those operating in the Mediterranean and the Pacific, are still using giant nets in defiance of international treaties.

Meanwhile, hundreds of

harbour porpoises continue to be killed in British and Irish waters, caught in gill-nets set to catch hake on the Celtic Shelf, southwest of the British Isles.

Conservationists are also alarmed that successful agreements in the eastern Pacific, designed to reduce the deaths of dolphins from tuna boats, may be relaxed. Allan Thornton, chairman of the London-based Environmental Investigation Agency, said that the worldwide ban on commercial whaling, which covers the 12 large species, should be extended to the 68 smaller ones.

Mr Thornton said that action was needed urgently. "Hundreds of thousands of small cetaceans are dying needlessly every year. Some countries have taken positive steps to curb the killing but others demonstrate a staggering degree of complacency."

"Large-scale fishing operations, excessive hunting and other human-induced mortalities have taken a terrible toll on many small cetaceans."

Leading article, page 19

Dancers lose jobs as ballet closes

By DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

LONDON City Ballet, one of Britain's foremost dance companies, which took classical ballet to parts of the country other companies did not reach, has been forced to close. Unable to raise some £500,000 to pay for its running costs, the company ceased trading yesterday, laying off 32 dancers and 19 musicians.

A planned three-week Christmas season of *Cinderella* for Sadler's Wells, in its temporary theatre, is among cancelled engagements. Others include *York* this week, followed by *Sheffield* and *Leeds*, and foreign tours.

Harold King, the artistic director who founded the company in 1978, said: "This is a bitter blow for everyone. I'm so shocked it happened so quickly. There was a meeting with the Bank of Scotland, which closed it immediately."

Despite receiving £225,000 from the Arts Council's touring department, the ballet, whose patron is the Princess of Wales, still needed to find 40 per cent of the annual £2.2 million budget from sponsorship.

Mr King said: "My vision when I founded London City Ballet was to make high-quality productions of classical ballet accessible for audiences throughout Britain."

In *The Times* last month, Debra Craine wrote: "You have to hand it to London City Ballet. They traipse around the regions, doing their best to present a credible diet of classical ballet without resorting to the tacky economies of so many small touring outfits. That LCB can produce a programme as varied and worthwhile as it brought to Northampton is ample justification for its existence on the touring circuit."

Piper goes into battle for sound of music

By KYLE SMITH

THE Corporation of London is seeking to prevent a bagpiper from practising on Hampstead Heath, but the piper claims he is not a musician because bagpipes are instruments of war.

David Brooks has played regularly on the heath, but the corporation, which manages the heath, has started an action in Hampstead Magistrates' Court to force him to stop, citing a bylaw which prohibits music.

Mr Brooks, who is expected in court on July 29, says the *English reclassified bagpipes* as weapons, not musical instruments, after pipers heralded the Battle of Culloden 250 years ago.

He will cite the case of James Reid, a piper tried for his part in Bonnie Prince Charlie's uprising, who claimed that he was a musician, not a rebel.

At Reid's trial in York, in October 1746, the court found that the pipes were "an instrument of war" and he was executed. The following year bagpipes were specifically named as weapons to be banned under the Disarming Act and remained classified as instruments of war even when the Act was repealed.

Mr Brooks claims that pipers from across the South of England will support his stance. "When one of Prince Charlie's pipers was captured by the government side at the rout of Moy, all the government pipers refused to play until he was released, so they let him go. The corporation should not ignore piper power. I wonder how it would deal with the massed pipes of southern England descending on the heath in protest?"

A corporation spokesman said: "We are not persuaded by Mr Brooks's argument."

Villagers rally to keep beer flowing

By A STAFF REPORTER

VILLAGERS did not just cry into their beer when their 160-year-old country pub shut. They decided to buy it lock, stock and barrel. A doctor, solicitor, farmers, builders and the village hairdresser contributed to keep the ale flowing.

Six couples and two bachelors paid more than £4,000 each for The Drovers Arms in the hamlet of Farmers Dyfed, population 600. Elyn Davies, a sales manager, said: "The pub has always been the heart of the village and we had to save it. We all had one more drink than we should one night and decided we would

buy it ourselves. If not we would have to travel four, or five miles for a pint."

The stone-walled pub has stood as long as the village, built on a Roman road stretching across the Welsh countryside, has been in existence. It opened in the middle of the last century to serve the drovers taking cattle, sheep and geese on the long route across the English border. The pub also housed the village school room 120 years ago, before a separate schoolhouse was built.

The pub has been shut since October, but should reopen next month as soon as new tenants are found to pull the pints.

Mr Davies said: "We've been missing it terribly and need to find the right person to go behind the bar. It is very difficult for someone to find the money to buy the pub and earn a good living out of running it."

"But we will own it and hope to find someone young and dynamic to run it — and still serve some of the best real ales around."



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BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

Among the biggest savings are those on Asda's own-brand paracetamol, which

Last week, Asda withdrew Anadin paracetamol from sale after the manufacturer, Whitehall Laboratories, obtained a temporary injunction prevent-

BY SARAH BAGNALL

Sainsbury's customers will

Tesco has just launched Clubcard Plus, a debit card that pays 5 per cent interest on credit balances.

The Community Pharmacy Action Group, which represents pharmacists, gave warn-

Boots said it was fully supportive of Resale Price Maintenance. "We believe the action by Asda is irresponsible because of the impact on

The Office of Fair Trading is reviewing Resale Price Maintenance for drugs and is due to report in the next few months.



BY JEREMY LAURANCE
HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

Under the deal, the developers will own the building and may provide many of the non-medical services under contract. "It is an agreement that has to cover the hospital for many years," the hospital's chief executive said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Vandal attack

Actor banned

Diabetic jailed

Baby found dead

1915 sub found

CORRECTIONS

☐ Dr Marion Swan, the con-

□ A photograph accompanying the obituary of Viscount Bearsted (June 15) was in fact that of his late brother, the 3rd Viscount. We apologise for the mistake.

BY A STAFF REPORTER

Merrick Willis, the chief executive, earns £64,000 a year. Pat Taylor, finance director, Sally Gough, operations director, Janet Rawson, nursing director, Martyn Dadds, contracts and information director, Margaret Markey, planning and development director, and Neil Offley, personnel director.

The RCN at national level said it reflected badly on the NHS when directors had to turn down bonuses to help to pay other staff.

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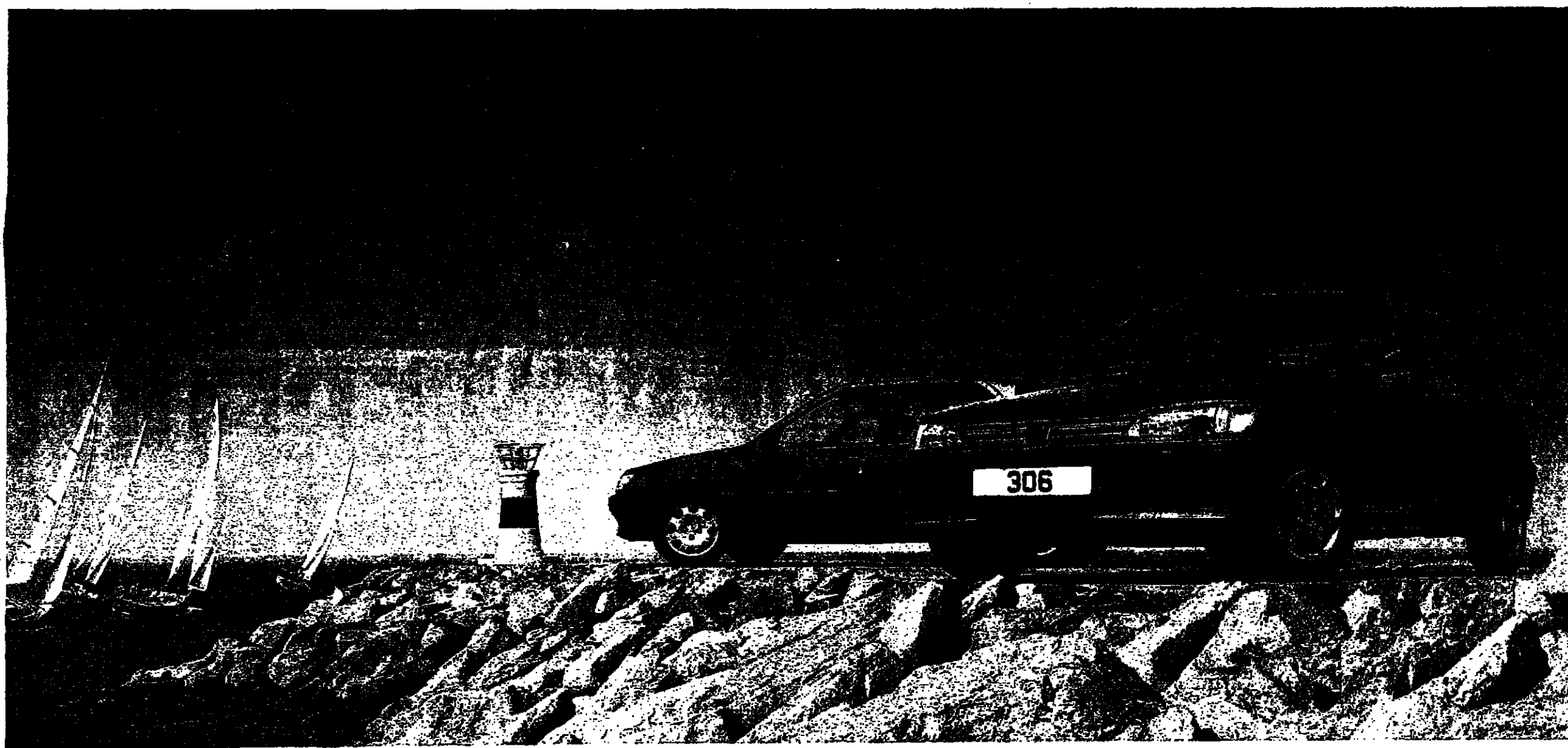
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THE DRIVE OF YOUR LIFE

Tower of London was not so high and mighty

William conquered rebellious capital with a white lie

BY MARCUS BINNEY

THE history of the Tower of London will have to be rewritten after the discovery that the 90ft walls of the White Tower, erected for William the Conqueror, were partly a sham, intended to overawe unruly Londoners, and contained fewer rooms than the imposing exterior suggests.

Instead of the flat roof shown in Tower guidebooks, domestic-looking pitched roofs were concealed at a lower level behind the tall stone walls.

The White Tower confirms the Conqueror's gift for trickery. Just as he has feigned retreat at the Battle of Hastings, luring the English into a trap, so the great height of his keep was in part a pretence. The three tiers of outside windows have long suggested there were three storeys of apartments for the King and his officials over a barely lit

mark, previously hidden behind showcases, was revealed on the south wall of the first-floor privy chamber. This shows the outline of a steeply pitched gabled roof, well below the level of the present, flat, lead-covered roof which had always been assumed to be on the line of the original.

Dr Parnell says: "The mark is etched on to the wall, probably when the roof caught fire. The most likely roofing material was thatch or wood shingles. There are no references to lead roofs in early medieval records." Evidence for a similar pitched roof over the larger hall to the west can also be seen in the newly exposed masonry.

Dr Parnell cites the chronicler Vitalis, who relates how Robert, Duke of Normandy, constructed a blacksmith's furnace in front of the castle at Brionne, Normandy, during a siege, allowing his archers to shoot arrows with heated tips into the dry shingles on the great hall.

The high walls of the White Tower were thus partly a protection against fire arrows. Evidence of similar pitched roofs at Norman stone keeps has come to light at Appleby Castle, Cumbria, and Castle Hedingham, Essex.

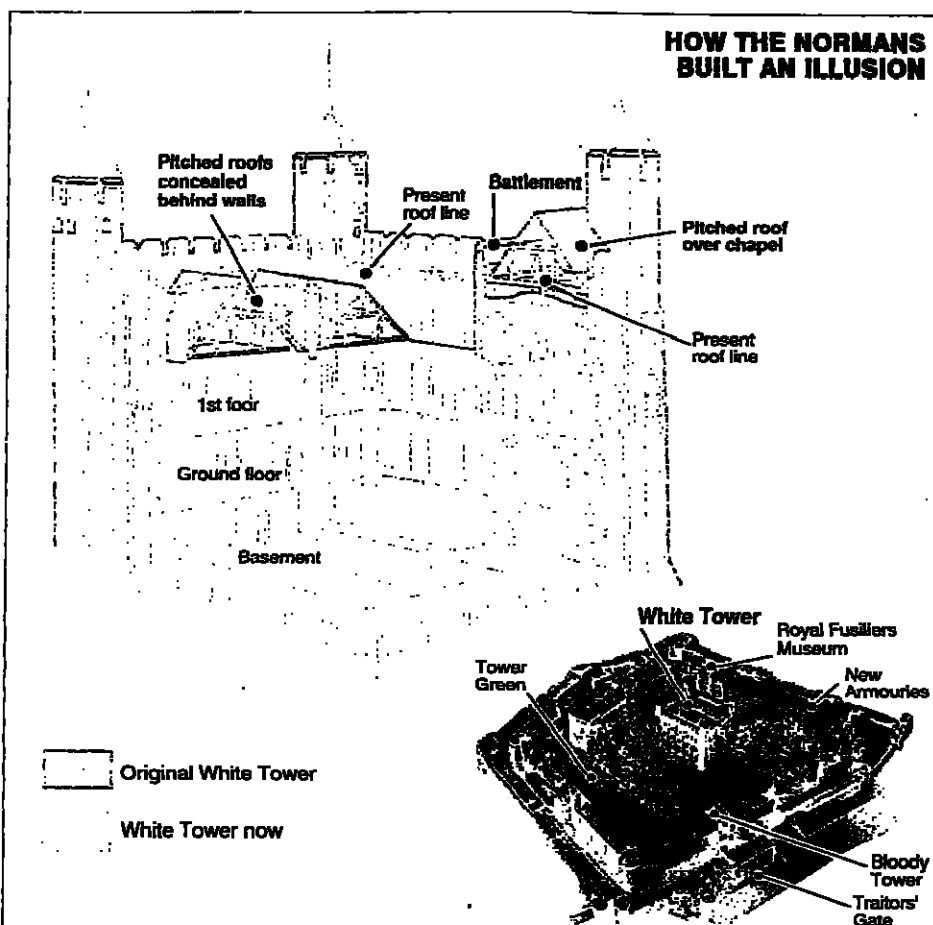
The walls were also intended to overawe what the chronicler William of Poitiers described as "the vast and fierce populace" of London. Stone castles were unknown in Anglo-Saxon England; the White Tower was by far the largest fortress since the Romans and among the largest in western Christendom.

Historians have long been puzzled that the dimensions and design of the vast keep are without precedent. Now it appears they may have served as a medieval version of Star Wars, intimidating by the appearance of a vast leap forward in defence capability. Tiny windows ensured the interior was as mysterious as that of a nuclear submarine, concealing just how many, or how few, Normans manned the garrison.

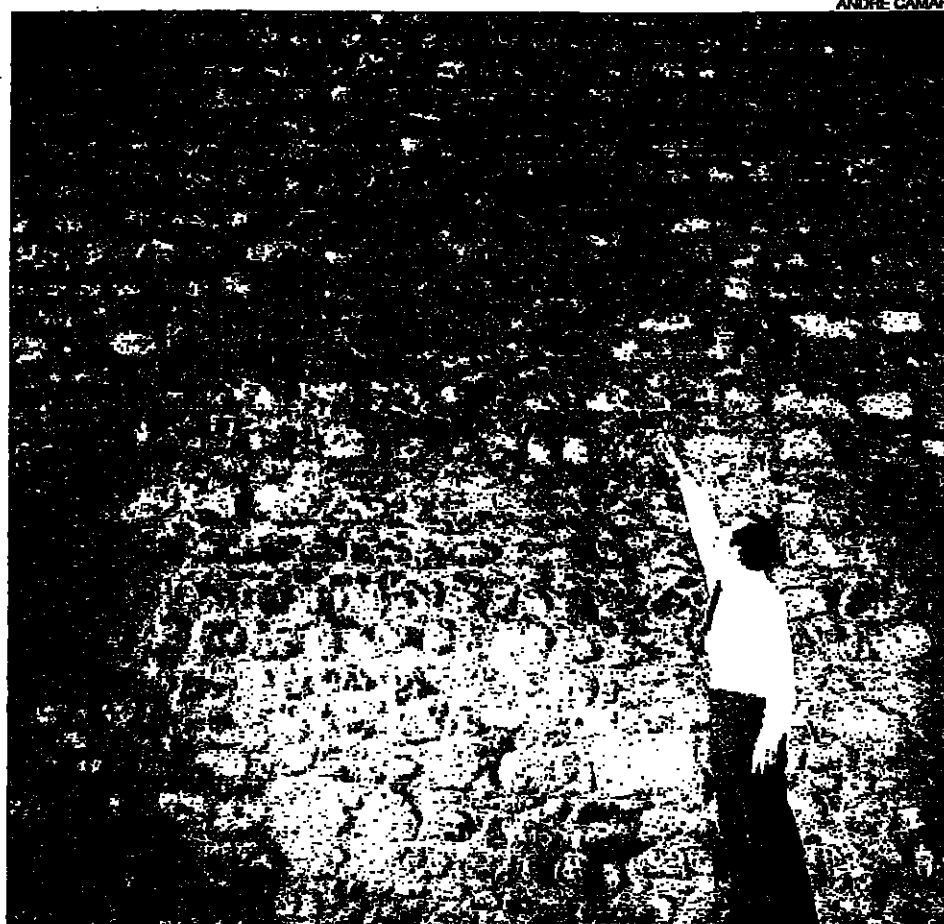
The Bayeux Tapestry shows that one of William's first actions on English soil was to order the construction of a castle at Hastings. The chronicles relate how at "every stage of the conquest" he built castles.

Mounted knights and moated castles were his principle means of subjugating the English. Vitalis held that castles rendered English courage ineffective.

The first of the £5.5 million displays in the White Tower will open next Easter.



The White Tower was less imposing inside than out. Dr Geoffrey Parnell points out the scorch marks around a pitched roof well below the top of the 90ft surrounding wall



AND ALL THAT

□ 1066: London submits to William at Berkhamsted. He remains at Barking while certain strongholds were made in London against the fierceness of the vast and fierce populace.

□ 1067: William begins systematic building of strongholds in English towns.

□ 1076: White Tower begun.

□ 1097: Anglo-Saxon Chronicle records a wall built around the Tower, suggesting White Tower is complete.

□ 1190: Tower of London "surrounded with a moat of very great depth".

basement. Now it is clear there were only two upper storeys. The accommodation for the King was on one floor, consisting of just two large rooms, a hall and a privy chamber, with a chapel adjoining.

Children's books showing keeps with the Normans living in comfortable bed chambers on an upper storey above the great hall are wrong. The discoveries tally with a description of 1125 by William of Malmesbury, an English chronicler, who wrote: "The Normans live in huge houses with moderation."

The evidence was unearthed by Dr Geoffrey Parnell, Keeper of Tower History at the Royal Armouries, when long-standing exhibits were removed from the White Tower to allow a rearrangement of the interior by the Royal Armouries and the Historic Royal Palaces Agency.

A clearly visible scorch

Scholars argue as Lady Jane drops out of picture

BY DALYA ALBERGE
ARTS CORRESPONDENT

ACADEMICS are divided over the National Portrait Gallery's decision to relabel an apparent portrait of Lady Jane Grey, the 16-year-old who reigned for nine days in 1553, as Catherine Parr, Henry VIII's sixth wife.

Scholars at the gallery concluded that the famous portrait, which had been accepted as the only known contemporary picture of Lady Jane, was probably painted earlier than once thought, with the sitter wearing a brooch that belonged to Catherine Parr.

The gallery changed the labels after Susan James, a Tudor historian, reported in *The Burlington Magazine*, an academic journal, that the crown-shaped jewel worn by the sitter can be traced to an inventory of jewels belonging to Catherine Howard, Henry's fifth wife, and then to Catherine Parr.

Dr James, who dates the picture to 1543 or 1544, soon after Parr and Henry married, sees it as a portrait of a woman in love. She also notes that Lady Jane was only ten at the



The portrait now said to be of Catherine Parr

time. Antonia Fraser said she was sufficiently convinced to include the new attribution in her book *The Six Wives of Henry VIII*.

However, the Tudor historian Maria Dowling believes that it "certainly cannot be Catherine Parr". Dr Dowling said: "The age and fashion date it to the late 1540s or early 1550s. That rules out Parr, who was in her thirties. This shows a young girl." A portrait by William Scrotes showed a much older woman.

Dr James argues that as a child of ten, Lady Jane would not have owned such grand jewellery. But Sir Roy Strong, the gallery's former director, said that as Lady Jane was brought up in Catherine Parr's household, she might have had access to the jewels.

When the gallery acquired the painting in 1965, it was assumed to depict Parr. It was Sir Roy who re-identified it partly on the grounds of its relationship to an engraving and a portrait that were known to be of Lady Jane.



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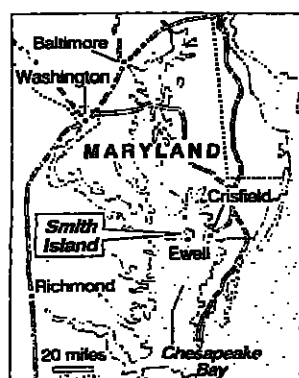
Environmental tide turns against island's heritage

LONG before the only ferry was due to leave Smith Island for the mainland, and as the sun was setting over Chesapeake Bay, Glenn Evans started to sift through his catch of crabs.

The blue softshells were packed by his wife and sister-in-law and taken in a small skiff to the boatmen who would transport the delicacies to the mainland ten miles away and the dinner tables of Washington and New York. "It's been another bad 'un," said Mr Evans in a brogue which somehow combined the Welsh burr of his ancestors with the southern drawl that pervades the shore of Maryland. "They're hurting us real bad. They're regulating us off the island."

"They" are a group of ecologists known as the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. Together with the school board of Somerset County on the mainland, the foundation has effectively sounded the death knell for a community which has survived almost untouched since its foundation by Welsh and Cornish settlers during the reign of Elizabeth I. The graveyards of its three churches bear testimony to the families who have sustained their heritage. The names of Tyler and Bradshaw, Marshall and Marsh, Evans, Dize

Off the coast of Maryland, a crab fishing community that has its roots in Wales and Cornwall and has endured since 1607 is fighting for survival. Tom Rhodes reports



crab fishing has been the lifeblood of this archipelago of marshy islets in Chesapeake Bay. The tides, sandbanks and wildlife of its marshy waters have been an integral part of island culture, folklore and poetry since Captain John Smith landed here in 1607.

Now it seems that Ewell, Rhodes Point and Tylerton, the trio of small villages connected by waterways with quaint names such as The Gut, are being eroded. In 1910, the island's population peaked at 805. By the end of the Second World War it had dwindled to 650. The current population is around 300 — some of whom are "foreigners" from other parts of Maryland, or from Ohio and Pennsylvania — and many believe the old ways will soon vanish altogether.

April Tyler, the teacher at Tylerton, the smallest of the communities, last week rang her bell for the last time at Maryland's only one-room school. Last year there were seven pupils. Next year there

would have been just two, and so the education board decided to close it.

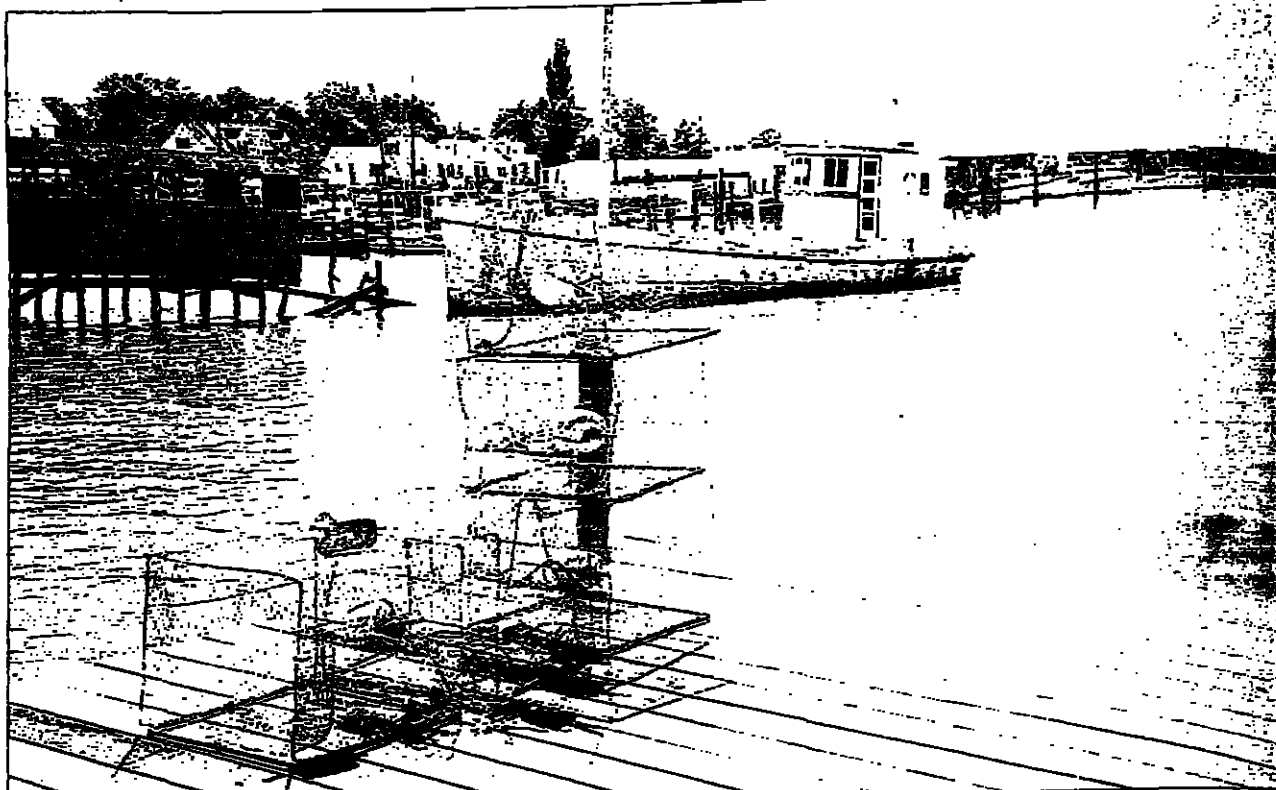
The school was not merely a social centre nor an eccentric anachronism. Without a place of learning there will be little reason to stay, and without families the settlement will probably disappear.

"The heart of this community is the school and the church," said Ms Tyler tearfully. "With its closure, part of the heart has stopped pumping. I'm sure they are just jealous of our conditions over here and want things to change."

The first school opened on Smith Island in 1790, using the Bible, *Pilgrim's Progress*, a hymn book and the works of Shakespeare as textbooks. A series of one-room buildings has served the island's boys and girls ever since.

In Ewell, the biggest village, the only other primary school on the island will soon lose half its staff. Some pupils have already been forced to make the daily journey to the mainland for an education.

Craig Evans, Glenn's 12-year-old nephew, had never considered leaving the island before. His father is a waterman, as was his father before him, and Craig always assumed that he would follow in their footsteps. Now, artfully



The Smith Island jetty, with the baskets of crab fishermen who have been forced into debt by "green" quotas.

bringing his shallow barge to rest at the Tylerton jetty, he says: "I dunno what I'll do. We have always been different here, it's just the way that it is. We don't want fancy school-

ing, we just want to stay and fish." Many of the islanders say they are not deprived by the lack of a hospital, a high school, a cinema, a supermarket or even a bar. Horror

stories of violence in Washington, four hours away by road, have merely served to emphasise the tranquility of the island, underpinned by a staunch Methodist upbringing. But there are those who have been tempted by the security of employment across the channel, as guards in the prison at Princess Anne or to jobs at the stores in Crisfield. Traditions have begun to disappear. The health department has refused to allow the islanders to shell crabs at home and a new £125,000 crab co-operative is being constructed near the closed school at Tylerton.

In an irony not lost on the watermen, the state has spent

a further £200,000 on a gleaming new visitors' centre and museum to document the island's history for the thousands of tourists who make brief excursions here every year. "Soon we may have no more history to document. The restrictions on crabbing and the closure of the school represent the death of our community," said Jennings Evans, 65, a former waterman

and the island's self-styled historian. "In the next few years, we will lose even more of the islanders and others will come in from outside to buy homes here. They're real friendly but they don't understand our society. They don't understand our ways."

‘We have always been different, it's just the way that it is’

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Disney flops force huge cut in output

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

COSTLY flops and intense competition are behind a drastic move by the Walt Disney Company to cut its annual output of films by half.

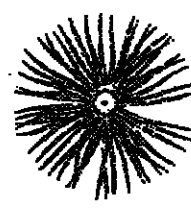
The giant studio, which since the late 1980s has been producing up to 40 feature films a year, will cut that to 20 because too many of them have sunk at the box office.

Eddie, starring Whoopi Goldberg as a basketball coach, and *Mr Wrong*, which features the sit-com star Ellen De Generes, are among the middle-brow Disney family comedies that have failed to perform financially in recent months. Between 1992 and 1994 the studio may have written off as much as \$200

million (£130 million) in losses from action films, an analyst told *The New York Times*.

Joe Roth, president of the Disney film division, sought to blame the glut of mediocre films on factors beyond his control, saying that the low quality of screenplays in circulation in Hollywood simply did not justify putting out 40 films a year. "The audience is telling us there are too many films," he added. "They're flocking to support certain movies and running away from others."

But a rival executive, who insisted on anonymity, said: "The problem isn't the glut of movies. It's the glut of Disney movies."



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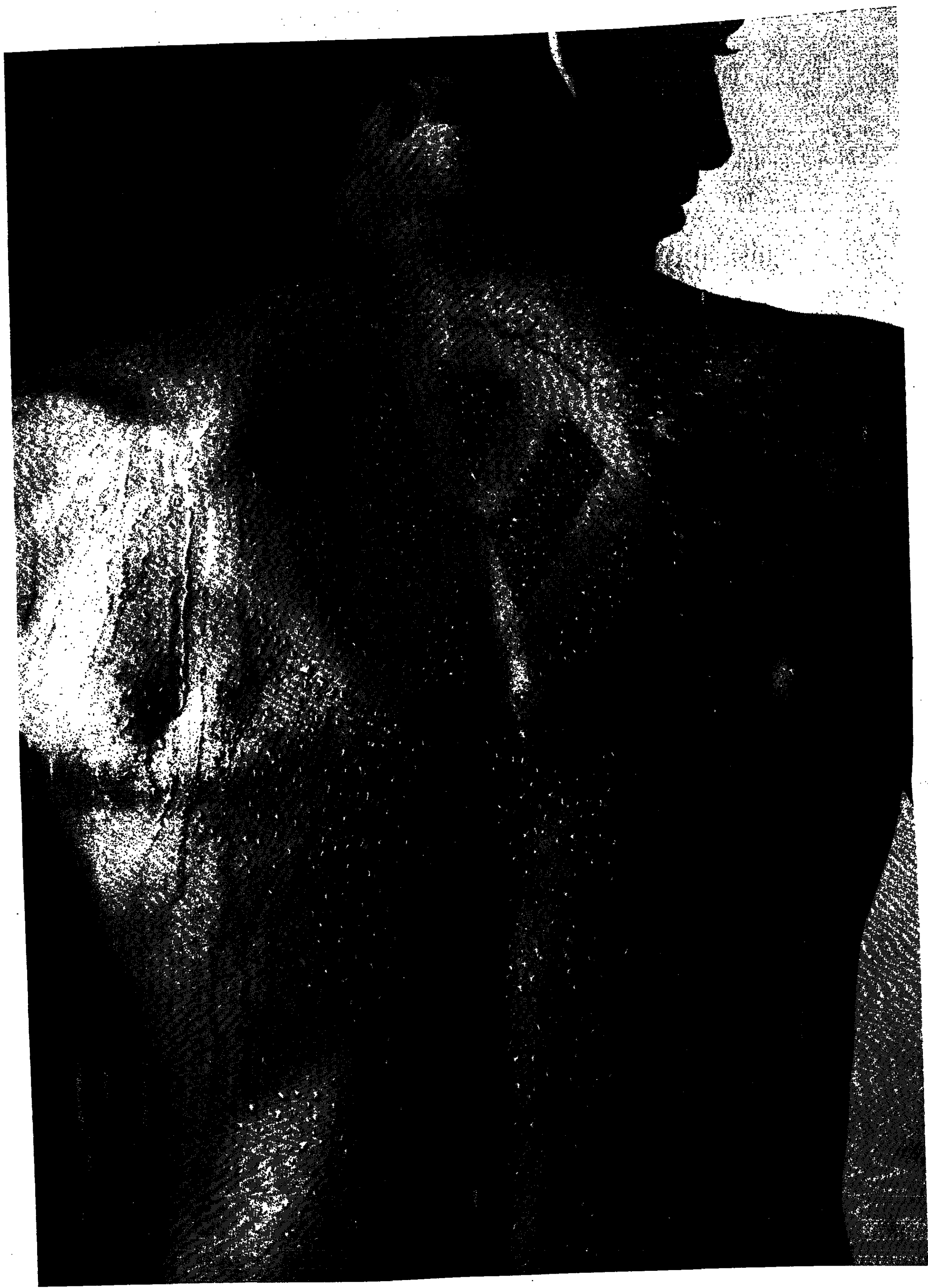
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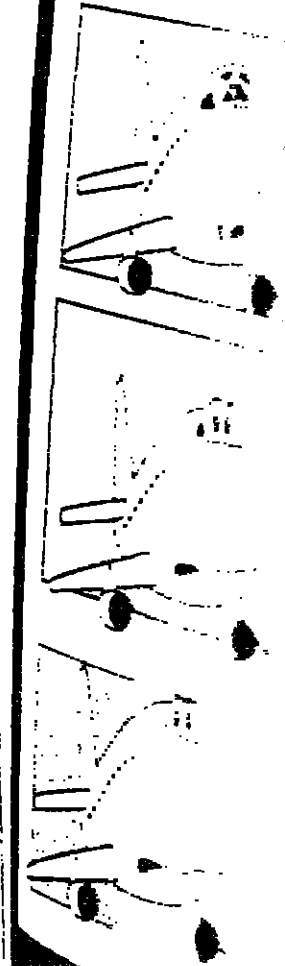
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Farrow: unhappy split

Farrow to tell about break-up for \$3m

BY QUENTIN LETTS

THE actress Mia Farrow will describe all the "harrowing and unfathomable" details of her break-up with Woody Allen in a forthcoming book.

Miss Farrow said she intended to disclose an intimate account of her unhappy split from Mr Allen because "he had no respect for everything I hold sacred — not my family, not my God or my goals." She made the remarks before an embarrassed audience at the American Booksellers' Convention in Chicago. Miss Farrow attended the convention with the official aim of generating pre-publication orders for the autobiography, for which she is being awarded \$3 million (£2 million) by Doubleday.

There was speculation that her agenda also featured more personal motives. She and Mr Allen were together 12 years, both as lovers and colleagues, before the director, then 56, left Miss Farrow for her teenage adopted daughter, Soon-Yi Previn.

In the book she intends to write about her first affair, when she was 17, with Salvador Dali. She and the "half-mad, half-enchanted and totally inspiring" surrealist "lunched on butterfly wings and toured New York City with garbage collectors".

Whitewater omens give black outlook for Hillary Clinton

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

HILLARY CLINTON yesterday responded angrily to the Republican-controlled Senate Whitewater committee, sending it a terse two-page affidavit rebutting the charges of wrongdoing.

In a further attempt to discredit the report in advance, David Kendall, Mrs Clinton's lawyer, sent a covering letter describing it as "the politically pre-ordained verdict of a kangaroo court... a last-minute hit-and-run smear unworthy of a congressional committee".

But the White House will find it much harder to discredit the eventual findings of Kenneth Starr, the White House special prosecutor. At the moment the US media continue fastidiously to avoid the ever more pertinent question — will President Clinton have to abandon his re-election bid if Mr Starr brings criminal charges against his wife?

As the evidence accumulates, the dramatic and unprecedented indictment of a First Lady is no longer beyond possibility. Mr Starr has developed the air of a man closing in on his prey and, on at least three fronts, Mrs Clinton looks open to charges of professional misconduct, obstructing justice or perjury.

There is her questionable legal work for Madison Guaranty, the corrupt Arkansas bank at the heart of the

Whitewater affair, and her possibly central role in later attempts to conceal that work. These include the destruction of her Rose Law Firm documents, the removal of other sensitive papers from the office of Vincent Foster, the White House lawyer, after his suicide, and the long disappearance of her subpoenaed billing records before they mysteriously surfaced in the Clintons' private quarters.

Despite Mrs Clinton's angry avowal of innocence

The First Lady is the soft underbelly of the Clinton Administration

yesterday, she seems increasingly vulnerable. "She's the Administration's soft underbelly," said Stephen Hess, a presidential expert at the Brookings Institution.

Common sense suggests that, if Mr Starr persuaded a grand jury to indict Mrs Clinton before November's election, her husband would have to step down and allow Vice-President Al Gore to become the Democratic candidate. Americans could hardly be expected to re-elect Mr Clinton knowing that their

First Lady would soon be in the dock.

But Mr Clinton is no quitter. During the 1992 election he survived Vietnam draft-eviction charges and tapes of him chatting to his alleged mistress. He might similarly attempt to brazen out any charges against his wife.

He would presumably accuse Mr Starr, a Republican who wants a Supreme Court seat, of seeking to destroy his presidency for political and personal reasons. He would demand to be judged on his presidential record, not on what he would dismiss as minor, largely historical transgressions, and would bank on the public's striking indifference to the Whitewater affair.

Whether Mr Clinton survived as his party's nominee would depend largely on congressional Democrats, most of whom also face re-election this November. They might stick with Mr Clinton if any indictments came late in the autumn and he was still well ahead of Bob Dole.

The commentator William Safire has suggested one other solution — reversing the Democratic ticket on the understanding that Mr Gore would relinquish the presidency if the Clintons were later cleared of any wrongdoing.

Today's widely leaked report from the Whitewater committee will accuse Mrs Clinton of orchestrating the



Hillary Clinton, who responded defiantly to the Whitewater committee's report

removal of documents from Foster's office, and will accuse her associates of perjuring themselves to protect her. White House aides will be condemned for allegedly deliberately obstructing federal investigations of Madison to spare the Clintons' political and legal damage. The com-

mittee's Democratic minority is to issue a dissenting report exonerating the Administration. Compounding the Clintons' discomfort, jury selection began yesterday in a second Whitewater trial in which two Arkansas bankers are accused of illegally funnelling \$13,000

(£8,500) into Mr Clinton's 1990 gubernatorial campaign. Mr Clinton, who subsequently gave the men state jobs, has again been summoned to testify. The trial could directly implicate Bruce Lindsey, who received the money and is now one of the President's closest aides.

France to share US nuclear secrets

BY TOM RHODES

FRANCE has become only the second country after Britain to enter a secret pact with America to share ultra-sensitive data which would help maintain its arsenal in a world free of nuclear tests.

French and American scientists will share a vast array of computer data drawn from simulated explosions of US atomic warheads, information only previously revealed to the experts of one other ally, Britain.

After two years of negotiations, an accord was finally signed in secret in Washington this month.

Seen as a symbol of President Clinton's enthusiasm both for a comprehensive test ban treaty and for the Government of President Chirac, the deal is designed to help bilateral challenges to the looming global test ban in the final stages of negotiation in Geneva.

A similar classified accord, the Mutual Defence Agreement, was signed between Britain and America in 1958 and has since become one of the core elements of bilateral relations. Although the new deal is unlikely to undermine the depth of America's commitment to Britain in matters of defence and intelligence, it will almost certainly raise concerns among developing countries long excluded from the nuclear club.

"It might be galling to some countries, who will see it as another example of the privileged status of nuclear weapon states," said Christopher Paine, of the Natural Resources Defence Council in Washington, "that they regard themselves as being of a different class, despite claiming that a test ban would affect all nations equally."

Some experts in Washington believe the French deal may mark the start of an extraordinary period of co-operation between existing nuclear powers. The Administration has already considered sharing less detailed information with Russia and China, the other declared powers.

The long-term prospect of a similar arrangement with undeclared powers, such as Israel, Pakistan and India, is said to have been contemplated.

Hive-renters sting farmers as bees fall to march of mites

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

AMERICA is not buzzing this summer. Owing to disease and recent climatic conditions, it has a grave shortage of bees.

Some parts of the East Coast have lost 90 per cent of their honey bee populations. Midwestern states have seen hives dwindle by 60 per cent, and the problem has even been noted in the Southern state of Arkansas, where 25 per cent of bees have died. Arizona, which in 1993 had 215 bee colonies, is reduced to 12

and wild bee populations in colder regions have perished in their entirety.

The bee shortage indicates higher prices for honey, but it could also have an effect on fruit and vegetable harvests, as bees are key pollinating agents. Courgettes, berries, melons, cucumbers and apples are among the \$19 billion (£12.5 billion) worth of produce likely to be hit across the country.

A brutally cold winter was partly to blame, as was the prolonged, damp spring. The long stay in the hives led to food shortages and to

bee constipation (noted for being houseproud, they were unable to get out to conduct their ablutions).

In addition, hives have been plagued by two mites: the blood-sucking tracheal mite and the varroa parasite. The varroa has been present in America since 1987, but this year has taken a deadly grip, leaping from one bee to another. The tracheal mite, which lodges itself in bee windpipes, was responsible for a British bee crisis at the start of this century. It started on the Isle of Wight, which some bee experts, in moments of dark humour, still refer

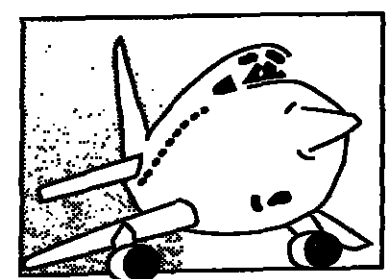
to as the Isle of Mite. American apiarists are in despair, and talk of the current crisis being the equivalent of the Black Death for bees. Hachiro Shimamuki, a bee researcher with the Agriculture Department, said yesterday: "Many beekeepers form an emotional attachment to their hives. This is very distressing for apiarists, in addition to being a financial disaster."

Researchers are studying ways of encouraging the leaf-cutter and bumble bees, which have not been affected. Pesticides are also being used, but low success rates are

reported and experiences in Italy and France suggest that the mites may have developed a resistance to the chemicals. Mr Shimamuki believed that the mites entered America from Mexico, but it was not known where they originated.

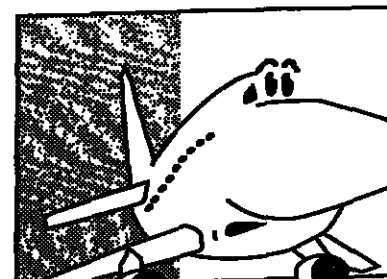
Hives are being rented out to farmers at rates which rival car-hire prices. Beekeepers from less badly affected areas, such as Florida and Georgia, are pulling in \$50 (£32.50) per hive for every two days or so. Kitchen gardeners are being given tips on hand pollination of plants, using fine paint-brushes.

Pinocchio's Favourite airline



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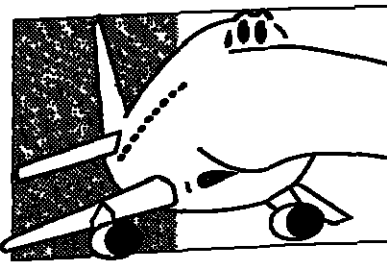
BA Spokesman The Times 22/6/95



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General emerges as kingmaker in Kremlin battle

FROM THOMAS DE WAAL
IN MOSCOW

ALEKSANDR LEBED, the man who made the strongest finish in Russia's presidential elections, has cultivated the image of a general who can impose order but dislikes war. "Wars are conducted by the weak," he said. "The strong do not allow wars to happen."

The former paratrooper with a broken nose recovered from a disappointing performance in the December parliamentary elections and refashioned his political image. In this campaign he was not only the tough general but a peacemaker, husband and father.

The dividends flooded in during the last few days of the campaign, with a rush of support at the expense of all other candidates, mainly the Communist Party leader, Gennadi Zyuganov, and the ultra-nationalist, Vladimir Zhirinovskiy. Several voters in Yekaterinburg, President Yeltsin's home town, said last week they had only just switched their allegiance to General Lebed. "We need a younger man," said Natasha Ileva, a 20-year-old nurse, praising his energy and resolute character. She would otherwise have voted for Mr Yeltsin.

The general was once identified with the anti-Yeltsin opposition, and still castigates the current regime for "an orgy of crime". But more recently he has taken a reformist line, particularly on economic policy. That makes it increasingly likely that he will throw in his lot with President Yeltsin before the second round of the



elections, provided he can do so without disappointing many of his supporters.

"He won't depart from democratic positions," Vladimir Klimov, General Lebed's press secretary, told *The Times* yesterday. "I think if he does not just call on his supporters to vote for Yeltsin but receives guarantees that the administration will accept precise points of his programme, his voters will understand."

Mr Klimov added that Mr Yeltsin and General Lebed got along very well personally. "From a purely psychological point of view, sympathies and antipathies form between people," he said. "That is true of the two figures, Yeltsin and Lebed. They are alike in character, they have a strength, a confidence that attracts people like a magnet."

It was probably General Lebed to whom Mr Yeltsin was referring last Friday when he said he now "knew a man" who was running for President and could be his successor in 2000. The phrase he used was strikingly similar to a line in a Lebed campaign advertisement.

General Lebed was born in 1950 in the southern city of Novocherkassk. At the age of

12 he watched from a chestnut tree the massacre of unarmed demonstrators by Soviet troops in the town, an experience which, he says, bred a revulsion in him for the indiscriminate use of force by the State. He served in Afghanistan with Pavel Grachev, the current Defence Minister. That adds force to his repeated calls for his old comrade to resign. "The country is tired of Pavel's reforms," General Lebed said. Opinion polls indicate he is the most popular man in the army.

He does not fit into a conventional mould. He won fame during the attempted putsch of August 1991 for not obeying orders to seize Mr Yeltsin's headquarters, the White House. But later he referred to the whole coup incident as a "shame".

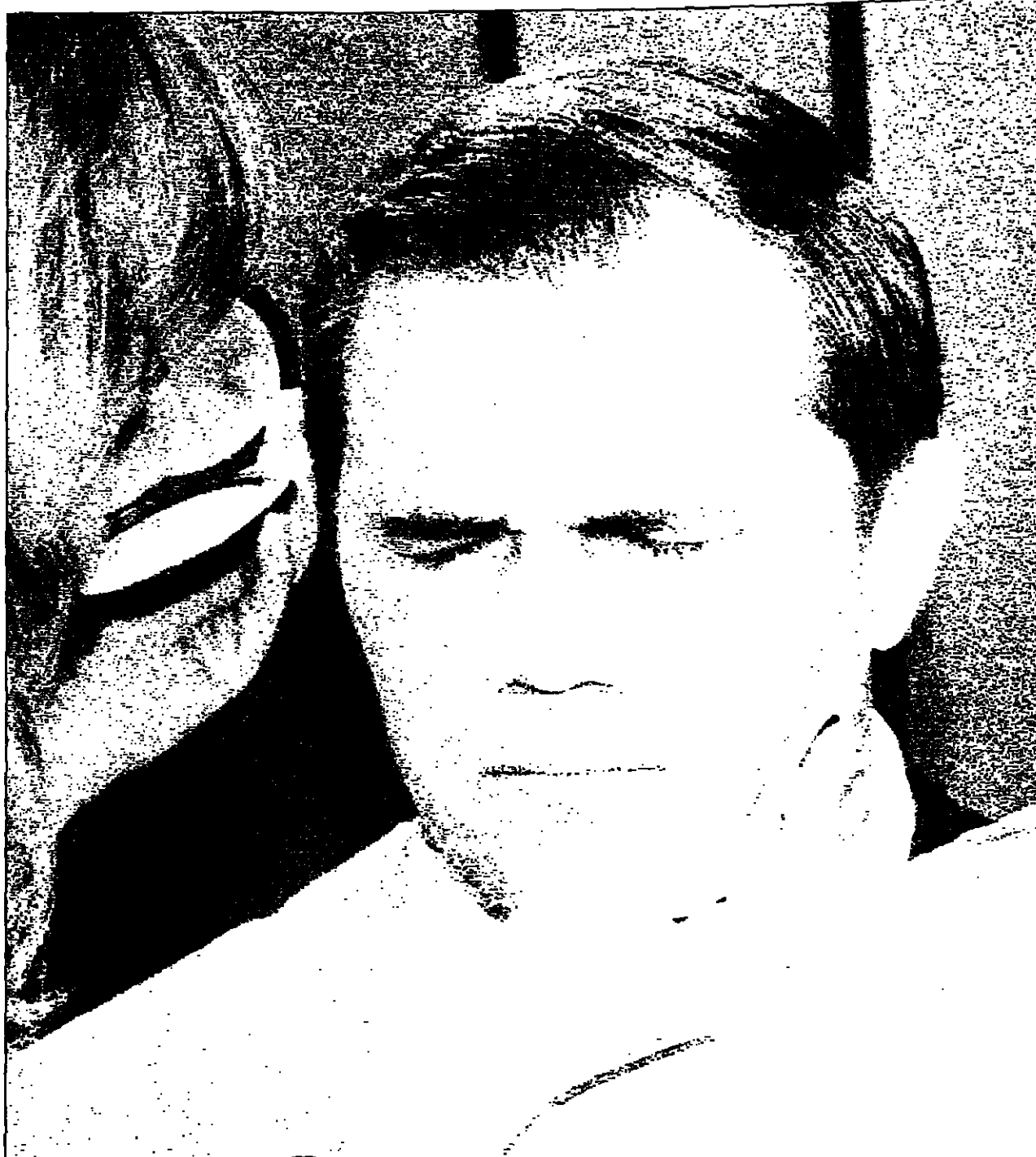
Sent to head the 14th Army in Moldova, he ended an incipient war with a brutal attack on the Moldavian forces. But he refers to himself as a peacemaker, not a hawk, and has condemned the war in Chechnya. In foreign policy, he has taken an aggressive line on Nato expansion and the West's policies in Bosnia.

The general's biggest talent, a rarity in Russia, is a knack for the pithy phrase and the soundbite delivered in his gravelly bass voice, roughened from chain-smoking.

"I am against bright futures," he said recently, dismissing the Communists. "They are like the horizon. However far you march, you never get there."

It was put to him on television on Sunday night that he had done well in many traditionally Communist regions. Did that mean he was "more left" than the Communists? "No, I am worse," said General Lebed with a grin. □ Gorbachev "fiasco": Mikhail Gorbachev, the former Soviet President, admitted his 0.5 per cent support in the poll was a "fiasco", but vowed that he would continue the struggle "to form an opposition democratic coalition". (AFP)

Leading article, page 19



General Aleksandr Lebed being made up for a television appearance after his strong election showing

Humiliated Zhirinovskiy faces oblivion

FROM RICHARD BEESTON
IN MOSCOW

THE ultra-nationalist firebrand, Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, who has entertained and terrified his countrymen and the world for the past five years, was heading for political oblivion yesterday after scoring an ignominious fifth place in the polls with less than 6 per cent support.

The first indication of the scale of Mr Zhirinovskiy's defeat trickled in soon after the initial results arrived on Sunday from the Russian Far East, traditionally a stronghold of his extremist Liberal Democratic Party. Mr Zhirinovskiy had

ULTRA-NATIONALISM

predicted confidently that he would come in third with 20 per cent.

By yesterday morning, the normally talkative party leader, who has relied heavily on publicity to propel his career, went into hiding. "Vladimir Volfovich [Zhirinovskiy] has cancelled his press conference and is not meeting anyone today," said a spokesman. "He does not want to see any journalists. He does not want to spoil his mood."

Mr Zhirinovskiy's reversal of fortune was as sudden as his rise. He emerged as

a virtual unknown during the 1991 Russian presidential elections, when the country was still a part of the Soviet Union. However, he shocked the world in 1993 when his anti-Western, anti-reformist party came first in the parliamentary elections.

After that, many feared that Mr Zhirinovskiy, who vowed to subjugate Russia's neighbours and rebuild the Tsarist empire, could emerge to become a new Hitler figure. However, his popularity began to wane soon afterwards, particularly when his opponents started incorporating some of his more popular nationalist policies.

Zyuganov unlikely to close vote gap

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN
IN MOSCOW

THE Communists look as if they still have everything to play for in the second round of the presidential elections. They were barely 3 per cent behind President Yeltsin in the first round, and the 30 per cent of the vote which went to other candidates is up for grabs. If they can gain two-thirds of this, they will have won.

It is assumed General Aleksandr Lebed and Vladimir Zhirinovskiy will do deals with the President, but as Gennadi Zyuganov, the Communist leader, said yesterday:

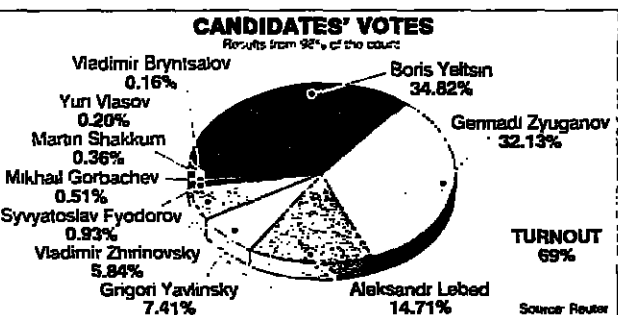
COMMUNISTS

"Most of the votes for General Lebed came from patriotic forces. An attempt to transfer them to the government party would be hopeless. They will abstain or vote for us."

The problem for the Communists, however, is that even if the Lebed and Zhirinovskiy voters stay at home in the second round, it will not help Mr Zyuganov. To beat Mr Yeltsin, he has actively to woo these voters, and he may not be capable of doing this.

A feeling is growing among observers that the Communists have reached their natural ceiling. Despite months of campaigning, the Communist vote has remained about what it was in the December parliamentary elections. The nature of this ceiling was apparent during a visit to the local Communist headquarters in the central city of Tula last weekend. The Communist workers dress and look like ordinary Russians from the poorer, older sections of the population. Their office seemed to be full of little old ladies — old ladies who form the backbone of the party.

The challenge for the Communists is not just to get beyond their mainly elderly, working-class core constituency, but to do so by a considerable margin. Even if they were to win by 1 or 2 per cent, they would still be vulnerable to what General Lebed wryly called "moderate and civilised rigging".



Volkswagen recalls suspect models

FROM ROGER BOYES
IN BONN

VOLKSWAGEN has begun one of the biggest recall operations in modern German motoring history because of possible flaws in the cooling system of some older models.

The company said four-cylinder Volkswagen Caddis and Passats built in 1988 and 1989 should be returned to

dealers as soon as possible. A spokesman said it had been found that hot water or steam from the cooling system could get into the passenger compartment, posing a risk of scalding to occupants. The company was aware of five such cases to date, but injuries had been minor.

The precise nature of the problem is unclear, but tests have found that a lack of

coolant can lead to occasional over-heating and premature ageing of heat-exchangers.

Volkswagen will bear the cost of recall. Almost 1.5 million cars could be involved. Volkswagen estimates there are half a million Caddis and Passats of this vintage in Germany and about 950,000 worldwide.

The recall comes after a similar operation in February,

when owners of Jetta and Golfs built between 1983 and 1989 were urged to take their cars in. Some 1.2 million cars in Germany were involved and another 700,000 in Europe.

Automobile industry experts said the costs to Volkswagen could be high, but the recall of the suspect models was an essential step to ensure the reputation of its products.



Berisha: victory

Clear win for Berisha in Albania

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

TO MAKE Nice nicer the city's right-wing Mayor has banned begging and rowdy alcohol consumption — the latest move by French holiday resorts to drive out the poor and homeless and encourage tourism.

Toulouse sought to discourage tramps by threatening to impound dogs without collars bearing an owner's name and full address. The exclusive Riviera resort of Menton has banned city-centre street sales of alcohol and newspapers, outlawed begging and restricted when people may gather with their dogs.

This dog legislation is also aimed at the homeless, who tend to congregate with pets on street corners and in parks. Cannes was the first, in 1993, to bring in legislation "to protect the welcome and the quality" of the resort, but the moves have been dubbed elitist, unfair and possibly illegal by some politicians and

those defending the homeless. Xavier Emmanuelli, the Minister for Humanitarian Action, said the Government was investigating the legality of the moves.

"Rather than act precipitously, we must remember our duty to welcome people in danger, wherever and whenever we find them," he told *Le Figaro* newspaper, adding he would meet city mayors to try to encourage tolerance.

Local authorities, however, are more keen to welcome rich holidaymakers. In recent years La Rochelle on the Atlantic coast, Metz in the northeast, and Pau and Carcassonne in the southwest have passed tough laws.

But the measures have angered local residents, who say sipping a drink in a pavement café and taking the dog for a walk with fellow pet-owners are the sort of pleasurable activities for which the resort towns are famous.

Flood-damaged Florence spruces up for summit

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN FLORENCE

THIRTY years after many of its Renaissance treasures were devastated by the flooding of the Arno, Florence is engaged in a last-minute burst of restoration and renovation to present a spruced-up image to the world for the EU summit on Friday. Visitors will have the chance to see newly restored masterpieces such as Caravaggio's *The Beheading of John the Baptist*, brought by a warship from Malta to be displayed at the Uffizi Gallery.

But officials admit not all of the damaged paintings, books and frescoes have been fully restored, and that anti-flood defences remain inadequate. "The flood could happen again," said Mario Primicerio, the Mayor. "We have spent millions of pounds on anti-flood monitoring stations along the Arno, but we could still be caught out again," said Vannino Chiti, president of the Tuscan regional authority.

Some Florentines grumble about summit overkill. The shimmering beauty of their city, one of Europe's architectural jewels, is covered in EU flags and placards (although many residents, and police, seem to think this is a G7 summit). Traffic is in chaos, made worse by hand-written diversion signs round the heavily guarded Fortezza da Basso, the summit venue.

The flooding anniversary does not fall until November. But local officials, art experts and environmental groups know the international spotlight is on Florence because of

Italy's EU presidency. The Italian Foreign Minister, Lamberto Dini, a Florentine, chose his native city as a summit venue last year, when interim Prime Minister. Last week's Bosnia peace review conference was also held here.

Advertisements are being run on Italian television to remind people of 1960 and to try to gather for a reunion as many as possible of the young volunteers — dubbed "the angels of the mud" — who came to the rescue from all

Rome: Vatican museums, which are expecting millions of extra visitors for the Holy Year in 2000, have completed the reordering of the Etruscan collection, founded in 1837. It now features new display cases and has a room dedicated to ancient Roman artefacts found in what became Vatican territory.

over the world. "We want to recapture the spirit of the time and inspire the present young generation with the idealism their parents showed," said Signor Primicerio. He says he will never forget the day when a wall of water nearly 20ft high roared through the city, smashing into churches, museums and houses and covering priceless works of art in a thick coating of putrid mud. Thirty-five people died.

Since then the Fortezza da Basso, a 16th-century Medici

fortress, has been restored and transformed into the high-tech conference centre EU leaders will see. Across town, in the museum of Santa Croce, the worst affected area, Cimabue's Crucifix stands as a symbol of the restoration effort, covered in blotches but still recognisably a work of genius.

The Orsanmichele church, near the Piazza della Signoria, is under frantic restoration, and near by workmen are repaving the courtyard of the Uffizi Gallery, damaged by a 1993 terrorist bomb. In the piazza's loggia, the wraps have come off Benvenuto Cellini's statue of Perseus, but it is only partly restored. The great Duomo is grimy and covered in scaffolding.

Professor Guido Clemente, the city's Assessor for the Fine Arts, is proud of what Florence has achieved. "It is because of these international meetings that we can attract resources to devote to our treasures," he said. "We have so many it is difficult to know how to spend our limited funds."

But environmental groups such as Legambiente want a systematic restoration programme, not only in Florence but in other Italian cities.

They have the support of Walter Veltroni, the Deputy Prime Minister, who gave a foretaste of his style earlier this month when he descended on Noto in Sicily to castigate officials for failing to prevent the collapse of its baroque cathedral.

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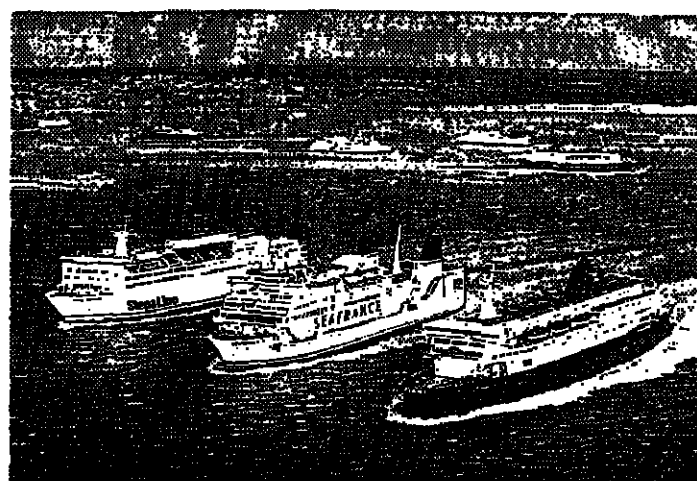
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New Zealand holds breath at volcano's pyrotechnics

FROM JOHN CAMPBELL IN WELLINGTON

NEW ZEALAND'S Mount Ruapehu volcano has exploded with a sustained series of eruptions, spewing out rocks the size of refrigerators and sending a cloud of ash and steam seven miles into the sky. Residents in the nearby town of Turangi have been told to stay indoors. Ash has covered the town, giving the appearance of a snowfall. A dense black cloud blocked out the sun. People who ventured out wore surgical masks or covered their faces with wet clothes.

In the city of Rotorua, a further 80 miles to the north-east, the touring Scottish rugby team was forced to call off a training session. Airports within a 100-mile radius of the mountain were closed.

Mount Ruapehu is 180 miles north of the capital, Wellington, in the volcanic heart of North Island. At 9,000ft, towering above a bleak desert landscape, Ruapehu is always

a commanding presence. But as its eruptions gained momentum yesterday it began to look like an image from Dante's *Inferno*. Against a brilliant blue winter sky, it spewed out clouds of thick black dust. Molten lava flowed through an open fissure and loud explosions could be heard.

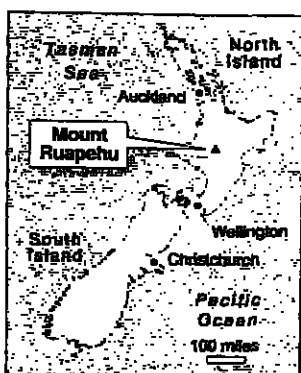
The volcano's theatrics suggested the eruption was bigger than it actually was. Volcanologists dismissed the possibility of a catastrophic explosion. Dr Colin Wilson told Wellington's *Evening Post*: "There is no suggestion the champagne bottle is being shaken."

For all that, the volcano has claimed some immediate victims. The first, and potentially the hardest hit, is the North Island's skiing industry. Ruapehu is home to the Turoa and Whakapapa skiing fields, both due to open this weekend.

In the resort township of Taupo, officials are monitoring water supplies, fearful of contamination by ash. **□ Fall-out limited:** The impact of the eruption will almost certainly be local rather than global, scientists said (Nick Nuttall writes).

Unlike Mount Pinatubo, the volcano in the Philippines which erupted in 1992 causing a temporary cooling of the Earth, the eruption of Mount Ruapehu has been too small to pump ash high enough to affect weather systems.

Rugby rethink, page 52



Wearing protective clothes, a resident of Tokannu near Turangi tries to clean his car windscreen of ash from Mount Ruapehu's eruption

Scientists to give Vesuvius 'light knock'

BY RICHARD OWEN

VISITORS to Naples next weekend who think they hear Vesuvius rumbling will not be mistaken: scientists are to conduct a series of "controlled explosions" to judge what will happen when the volcano erupts again.

Although volcanologists insist there is "absolutely no danger" to the public, the experiments have aroused memories of Vesuvius's fearsome eruptions, the last of them in 1944.

Vesuvius, rising 4,000ft above the sparkling Bay of Naples, has been closely monitored since Sir William Hamilton, the British minister in Naples and husband of Nelson's mistress, conducted early scientific experiments on its slopes in the 18th century. Since 1944 it has stopped emitting the smoke and steam which used to show that it was still active.

But residents — some of whom remember the lava stream that poured down the mountain 52 years ago — say Vesuvius has been unpredictable since the mighty explosion of AD79 which buried Pompeii and Herculaneum. The series of blasts, from June 22 to July 1, are intended to reveal the structure and dynamics of the thick crust which keeps the bubbling molten lava in place six miles down. Paolo Gasparini, one of the scientists involved, claims they will amount to no more than a "light knock".

"They will be rather like a doctor tapping his patient's chest with his fingers to work out if there are any problems with his lungs," he told *Corriere della Sera*.

The explosions will occur in 14 boreholes up to 240ft deep on the

mountain slopes and along the spectacular coastline, using charges ranging from 500lb to 1,700lb of explosives. The experiments, to be monitored by French, Italian and Swiss volcanologists, should give a tomograph, a three-dimensional computer profile, of the interior of the volcano.

"We want to understand what Vesuvius will be like when it wakes up," said Signor Gasparini. "We will get a clearer idea of what mood it will be in."

This may be small comfort for the inhabitants of the area round the volcano, a largely unplanned sprawl of housing and industry as well as tourist resorts. They are less interested in the mountain's mood than in the civil defence plan drawn up last year for the emergency evacuation of 600,000 people. Franco Barberi, a

vulcanologist and civil defence official who helped to devise the evacuation plan, which involves ships ferrying people to safety, admitted it could be rendered useless by panic. He says the chances of survival on Vesuvius's eastern and southern slopes would be "minimal" if the molten lava were accompanied — as is all too likely — by gigantic gusts of poisonous gas and red-hot ash.

Dr Barberi points out that when Vesuvius erupted in 1631, people had been lulled into a sense of false security because the volcano had been dormant for centuries. More than 3,000 people were killed.

□ Jakarta: A strong earthquake measuring 7.5 on the Richter scale hit eastern Indonesian islands yesterday, a meteorological official said. (AFP)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Court halts the trial of Priebke

Rome: An Italian military court hearing the war crimes trial of former SS captain Erich Priebke adjourned proceedings yesterday pending a decision on a request by the prosecutor to dismiss the panel of judges because of alleged irregularities.

Priebke, 82, has been on trial since last month charged with involvement in the 1944 massacre of 335 men and boys south of Rome. (Reuters)

Arms talks move

Geneva: The United Nations Conference on Disarmament formally admitted nations once suspected of having nuclear ambitions — Iraq, Israel, South Africa, Syria, Ukraine and the two Koreas.

Nastase loses

Bucharest: Ilie Nastase, the former tennis star, was beaten by Victor Cioba in the second round of city mayoral elections. Mr Nastase received 43 per cent of the vote to Mr Cioba's 57 per cent. (Reuters)

Cost of living

San Diego: Virgil Ray Noonkester, 67, is suing his doctor for saving his life after suffering respiratory failure. He wants the doctor to pay all medical costs now needed to keep him alive. (Reuters)

Brazil slum fire

São Paulo: Four Brazilians, including a one-year-old boy and a newborn baby, died and up to 50 were injured in a slum fire. Police helicopters plucked ten people from the building where the fire began. (Reuters)

8m baby deaths

Geneva: More than eight million babies worldwide die each year before their first birthday, most of them from disease or inadequate care at birth, the World Health Organisation said. (AP)

Island clashes

Zamboanga: Muslim rebels shot down a Philippines government plane and suffered many dead in clashes with troops in the Pilas islands, 550 miles south of Manila, radio reports said. (AP)

Roadworker tells backpacker murder court he is innocent

Sydney: After nearly three months of prosecution evidence, the Australian roadworker accused of killing seven young backpackers, including two Britons, entered the witness box yesterday to deny his involvement in the murders (Roger Maynard writes). Ivan Milat, 51, said he

had never been to the Belanglo State Forest in the New South Wales Southern Highlands, where the victims' bodies were found.

He denied owning a Ruger rifle, parts of which were found in his house, and claimed that he had no knowledge of some of the backpack-

ers' camping equipment, which was also found in his Sydney home.

Mr Milat also maintained he was not responsible for the attack on a British tourist, Paul Onions, from Willenhall in the Midlands, in 1990. He is expected to be cross-examined today.

China averts trade war over pirate CDs

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

AMERICA, after staving off a crippling trade war at the eleventh hour, last night applauded China for closing down 15 pirate compact disc factories, but said much remained to be done in enforcing a copyright agreement the two countries signed last year. Washington had said it

would impose sanctions against Chinese textiles and electronics exports worth \$2 billion (£1.3 billion) from yesterday if Peking did not clamp down on violations of their deal.

Charlene Barshefsky, the acting American Trade Representative, said after a meeting with President Jiang Zemin that China was taking "im-

portant actions" in all four key areas identified by her team. "As a result, trade sanctions will not be imposed," she said.

One of the key areas was market access for American record, film and computer software industries. "The commitment in the 1995 agreement was sweeping but enforcement was nil," she said.

In Washington, President

Clinton welcomed the agreement, but critics questioned whether the new deal could be properly enforced. "It is an agreement that will be good for American jobs and American businesses," said a jubilant Mr Clinton.

He argued it would protect intellectual property rights and avoid further sanctions from both sides.

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The Spider meets the most demanding safety standards and for those who do not like to sacrifice their creature comforts for driving pleasure, there is central locking, power steering, height and reach-

adjustable steering column, electric windows and sound system.

The bucket seats have been ergonomically designed: decidedly sporty in shape, they are heavily bolstered for good support and comfort.

For obvious reasons, security on the Spider has to be stringent and the sports car is fitted with a sophisticated on-board immobiliser system which freezes the engine management computer, preventing the engine from being started without the correct key.

It also has a remote controlled alarm system with an ultrasonic facility and all windows are etched with the vehicle's identification number.

The winner will have to be prepared to be sociable — because the Spider is the sort of car other drivers want to stop and talk about.



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Food: Day Two - Anjana Ahuja on the links between DNA and the chemicals in foods;

THE ACTRESS



Frances Grey, London actress.
Age: 26.
9am: Three glasses of filtered tapwater.
9.35am: Bread with peanut butter. Tea.
Midday: Diet Coke.
3.10pm: Two cups of BBC coffee. Two biscuits.
4.45pm: Glass tomato juice.
5.05pm: Large bowl of pasta with creamy basil sauce, vegetables and cheese.
9.35pm (at party): White wine. Plate of Thai pork.
4.15am (at home): Water.
Duty food: None.
Occasional indulgence: Chocolate.
Given up: Nothing.
Do you eat too much?: No.
Food philosophy: I like to make it myself.
Spend per week: £14 in, £35 out.

THE PILOT



Bill Pickard, BA long-haul pilot.
Age: 38.
10am (At home in Antibes): Two cups instant coffee. Croissant or baguette.
1pm: Passenger to Heathrow. Airline lunch.
6pm: Vending machine coffee at Heathrow.
9pm (on board): Sandwiches, Evian water.
Midnight: Dinner. Bread roll, smoked salmon. Roast chicken with vegetables. Cheese, fruit. Never the same food as passengers or co-pilot.
7am: Wake up. Cup of coffee. Land the plane.
Duty food: I try to avoid red meat.
Occasional indulgence: None.
Given up: Nothing.
Do you eat too much?: About right.
Food philosophy: Enjoy it.
Spend per week: £70 in, £50 out.

THE LAWYER



Lesley MacDonagh, Senior City lawyer.
Age: 44.
7.15am: At the breakfast table with three children. Cereal with semi-skimmed milk, often have nothing.
8.30am: Extra strong black coffee at work.
1pm: Prawn salad sandwich at desk. Mars bar. Sometimes salad at buffet. "Copious" tea and coffee until ...
8pm: Large gin and tonic after putting the children to bed.
8.30: Large tuna salad. Glass of wine.
Duty food: Fruit.
Occasional indulgence: Chocolate.
Given up: Nothing. I eat what I like.
Do you eat too much?: Yes.
Food philosophy: I love it, and don't worry.
Spend per week: £100 in, £50-£100 out.

Tailor your diet to suit your genes



The Institute of Food Research is the country's leading authority on what we eat, writes Anjana Ahuja. It carries out independent research into the safety and quality of food as well as examining how our attitudes have shifted, how we view science in the supermarket, and how healthy we think we are

How will you choose what you eat 20 years from now? Scientists are already discovering that identical foods trigger varying degrees of biochemical change in different people, and this variation comes down to genes. So, if you want to eat foods that are good for you, then your diet should be dictated by your DNA.

This startling concept has emerged from work carried out over the past year by Dr Gary Williamson at the Institute of Food Research in Norwich. Working with Addenbrooke's Hospital, in Cambridge, and the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, in Norwich, he took samples of human tissue, added chemicals found naturally in certain vegetables and looked to see how the human cells responded. Some samples responded dramatically, others did not.

Where do genes come in? Genes regulate which proteins are active in our bodies, and the staggering variation in genes which makes each of us unique means that we all have a slightly different balance of proteins — protective or otherwise — floating around inside.

Broadly, it is these different balances that cause people to respond to the same foods in different ways. So foods that are generally thought to be beneficial may, in fact, have little or no impact on those already blessed with health-giving genes.

Dr Williamson, head of the cellular metabolism and enzymology group, says: "We



know that if you feed Brussels sprouts to people it generally reduces the level of DNA damage in their bodies. But performing the study on an average population sample shows that these levels of reduction vary unbelievably.

He is looking specifically at fruits and vegetables, the focus of most current dietary advice. These foods are thought to protect the body against the ravages of antioxidants, free radicals, carcinogens and other toxins. He is particularly intrigued by the Brassica family of vegetables, which counts broccoli, cabbage and sprouts among its members. This is because brassicas seem to contain lots of compounds which stimulate the body's defences.

One such protective chemical is glutathione transferase mu, or gs-mu, which is thought to be one factor in determining whether a smoker will develop lung cancer.

"About half the population have the gene to produce this chemical and half don't," says Dr Williamson. "This may be why some people can smoke all their lives, never develop lung cancer and die in their sleep at the age of 90."

If a food contains gs-mu, then people without this chemical would benefit enormously from eating it. A diet sufficiently rich in such foods may therefore be able to provide this missing anti-cancer chemical. In fact, understanding the interaction between diet and cancer will be an exciting consequence of this research, which has yet to be published.

There are more examples. "Broccoli, onion and garlic are known to stimulate a similar protective chemical called gs-alpha," Dr Williamson says. "Natural levels of this chemical vary from high to low in people, and there is a thirty-fold variation across the popu-

lation. It is more important, therefore, for people at the lowest end of the scale to eat more broccoli."

He points out that it would not necessarily be beneficial for people naturally awash with gs-alpha to eat lots of broccoli: "The body regulates itself so that if you have an excess, you become less efficient at processing it."

The implications for public health are astonishing. Instead of the blanket guidelines that are dished out at present, nutritional advice could be targeted at individuals. He says: "A lot of nutritionists haven't appreciated that you can get vastly different data between different people."

But there are even more radical possibilities. "It is conceivable that in the future you could walk into a supermarket, get a biochemical test done, and then tailor your diet to suit your genes," Dr Williamson says. "Such tests could become as widespread as cholesterol tests are today."

As with all developments in genetic research, the ethical implications are already troubling scientists. Dr Williamson adds: "Not only would it be an expensive process to test everyone, but the first people who would want to know the results are the insurance companies."

He thinks, however, that this will be the way of the future. "In the United States, I know they are thinking along these lines already. A lot of companies over there are interested in developing such tests."



Variations in our genetic make-up mean that the same food will produce different reactions in different people

The growing use of performance-enhancing drugs casts a shadow over the Olympic Games

Athletes who aren't good sports

The forthcoming Olympic Games have not yet caught the imagination as firmly as those in earlier years. One suggestion for any lack of enthusiasm is that the increasing professionalism of athletes has led to a greater dependence on body building, and performance-enhancing drugs. Spectators in the past were interested in watching athletes competing against each other, now they wonder when they see a race if they are not comparing the biochemical knowledge of the runners' coaches.

A survey of college students published in the *BMJ* in 1992 showed that 44 per cent of men and 1 per cent of women admitted taking anabolic steroids. More recent figures from American universities are even higher. As most students are not interested in competitive sport, the usual reason for taking these drugs, these statistics suggest that an unacceptably high proportion of those who are athletes must be using anabolic steroids to enhance performance.

The *British Journal of Clinical Practice* has recently reported the case histories of two men who, although previously healthy and athletically fit, suffered severe heart attacks when taking anabolic steroids.

The men had none of the usual factors which predispose to heart disease. They had normal blood pressures, their coronary arteries showed no significant narrowing from atherosclerosis, and they had no family history of heart disease. Tests showed that the heart attacks were the result of large blood clots lodging in normal coronary arteries. The Manchester doc-

tors who treated these patients felt that it was reasonable to suppose that the performance-enhancing drugs were an important factor in causing these patients' heart attacks. Anabolic steroids have previously been known to cause strokes as a result of damage from blood clots circulating in an otherwise healthy brain.

The *British Journal of Clinical Practice* also carries a review by Dr David Crook, of the National Heart and Lung Institute in London, of the effect of the anabolic steroid drugs at present used by athletes.

It seems that today's athletes despise simple testosterone, the male hormone, because although its properties enhance athletic performance it is rapidly metabolised by the liver. Modern synthetic derivatives of testosterone, whether taken by mouth, injection or by a

combination of both means, are much more efficient. These recently introduced anabolic-androgenic steroids remain in the body long enough to reduce fat and replace it with bulky muscles and increased strength.

But the athlete's psyche as well as his physique has to pay a heavy price for an improved chance of winning. Anabolic-androgenic steroids increase aggression as well as competitiveness, and have been blamed for "road rage" type incidents. Furthermore, while they increase libido (sexual desire), they decrease potency.

Conversely, a large dose of testosterone has occasionally caused priapism, a painful, tense, long-lasting erection which, if it is not treated surgically if necessary, can be permanently damaging to the penile mechanism. In the past priapism has been attributed to excessive stimulation pro-

vided by the androgen, but it could be related to the tendency of androgenic drugs to encourage thrombus (clot) formation. The athlete taking anabolic-androgenic steroids may fail as a father as well as a lover, for these sporting performance-enhancers can inhibit sperm production.

In both men and women the steroids change the chemical balance of the body and as a result cause oedema (fluid retention), which may be visible only as a swelling of the hands and feet, but can affect many other systems too. Androgen-anabolic steroids damage the liver by occasionally causing liver tumours as well as jaundice and a low-grade hepatitis.

It is not only men who take male hormones. Women too use them to improve their muscular build and to give them male aggression. Women who take androgenic-anabolic steroids risk swapping the curvaceous appearance of Venus for the tough body of a Hercules: their breasts and uterus

shrink, their voices deepen, and they develop a male pattern of hairiness and an acneiform skin.

With such a frightening list of possible side-effects it is interesting that the number of athletes who suffer serious lasting harm seems to be so low. Dr Crook suggests that this is because random drug testing has reduced the number of athletes who use performance-enhancing drugs continuously. Many athletes use them in six to 12-week cycles and combine them with other drugs designed to minimise side-effects.

There is now an increasing amount of research into possible medical uses of androgenic drugs but the doses prescribed by doctors will be much lower than those used by athletes. The anabolic-androgenic steroids should not be confused with the steroids which are life-saving when taken by asthmatics, and sufferers from many other diseases: their action and side-effects are totally different.

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DENTAL IMPLANTS

In January 1996 The Times published an article by Giles Coren on dental implants, which resulted in a number of enquiries from the public.

Dr Michael R. Norton, author and international speaker on the subject of dental implants is delighted to announce that he will be hosting a patient information evening at The London Clinic, 20 Devonshire Place, London W1, on Thursday 4th July. Wine and canapés will be served at 6.30pm (after parking restrictions).

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how we fool ourselves at the table; worries over genetics and the problem of allergies

THE FARMER




Lindsay Blyth. Dairy/arable farmer. Age: 52.
 6am: Two cups of espresso coffee with fresh milk from the dairy.
 8am: Two croissants. More espresso coffee.
 1pm: Roast beef, vegetables from the garden. Garden fruit crumble and ice-cream. Appletize.
 7pm: Safeway salad. Cold meat. Bread. Cheese. Appletize.
 9.30pm: Bar of dark chocolate. Espresso coffee.
 Duty food: None.
 Occasional indulgence: Cream cakes.
 Given up: Alcohol.
 Do you eat too much? No, because I don't put on weight.
 Food philosophy: I eat what I like, and I like most things.
 Spend per week: £150 in (family of four), £30 out.

THE SINGER



Susannah Glanville, singer with Opera North. Age: 31.
 9.30am: Cereal. Toast with butter and marmalade. Tea.
 11am: Coffee.
 2.30pm: Baked potato with tuna mayonnaise and salad. Flapjack. Coffee.
 4.30pm: Cup of tea.
 5.45pm: Arrive at theatre and begin drinking as much fruit juice as possible.
 10.30pm: Performance ends. One can of Diet Coke.
 Duty food: None.
 Occasional indulgence: Chocolate biscuits.
 Given up: Cheese.
 Food philosophy: Eat nothing that makes me nervous.
 Spend per week: Varies, at home or touring.

THE CHEF



Jeremy Lee, head chef. Blue Print Café, London. Age: 33.
 8am: Cereal. Cranberry juice. Fruit.
 11.15am: Five double espressos at the restaurant.
 12.30pm: Vanilla ice-cream with chocolate sauce.
 3.30pm: Char-grilled salmon with potato dauphinoise from the menu.
 Throughout the evening: Spanish charcuterie, herrings, potatoes and cucumber.
 11.30pm: Campari and orange juice.
 Duty food: Nothing.
 Occasional indulgence: Picnic bars.
 Given up: Huge quantities of Picnic bars.
 Do you eat too much? Yes.
 Food philosophy: If you like it, eat it.
 Spend per week: Don't know; eat in the restaurant.

When delusion is on the menu

A ROSE-TINTED VIEW

Two of the comedian Harry Enfield's funniest, and most revolting, creations are Wayne and Waynetta Slob. Saddled with a sad dress sense, spots and spare tyres, the couple live their life on the couch in front of the television, belching through a mountain of takeaways and a sea of beer.

As a nation we tend to think that only the Waynes and Waynettas of this world have a diet to fret about. According to research, however, we are deluding ourselves.

This collective affliction is known as "optimistic bias" and it means we have a rose-tinted view of the healthiness of our food intake. We eat more fat than we should, and in reality eat more fat than we think we do.

"People have an optimistic bias about their own behaviour," says Dr Dave Mela, from the consumer science unit at the Institute of Food Research (IFR). "People with high-fat diets don't see themselves as having a high-fat diet. They think that only the stereotyped couch potatoes eat too much fat. That makes targeting health messages something of a problem."

One reason for this, Dr Mela thinks, is that people are confused about which foods are high in fat. "Lager is seen as fattening but contains no fat at all. Baked beans and pasta are also seen as high-fat foods, when in fact they are the opposite," he says.

High-fat foods are also mistaken for low-fat foods. Oily fish is quite fatty, although it offers other health benefits, and two thirds of the calories in an egg comes from fat. Contrary to public perception, margarine has a fat level comparable to butter.

About 40 per cent of our diet is fat. This proportion has stayed constant since 1970, despite an overall drop in food intake. However, it should be nearer the 30 per cent mark.

According to Dr Mela, the average person knows how to lower his or her fat intake but doesn't go far enough. "We have made specific changes, such as switching to semi-skimmed milk. But we see switching milk as a bigger deal than it really is," Dr Mela says.

Optimistic bias also affects our attitudes to fruits and vegetables. Many people think, wrongly, that they eat more fresh produce than they really do. "To some people, a slice of tomato would qualify as a portion, so we need to get across that people should eat five proper portions of fruit and vegetables daily," he says. The average person manages about three.

Keen to find out why public health messages are not being absorbed, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF) is putting money towards Dr Mela's work. We can all reel out some excuses for not changing our diet. Availability of such foods can be a problem and, for some, cost is an issue. And, as anyone used to fruit merrily rotting away is well aware, storage can be a pain. Also, apart from strawberries and cream, there are few traditional British dishes which call for fresh produce. We are simply not used to preparing it. "It does require a bit more planning than people are used to," Dr Mela admits, "and our environment doesn't make it easy for people to make healthy choices. Restaurants should develop attractive healthy options. Healthy eating should not mean being subjected to rabbit food."

Next on Dr Mela's list for demystification is starch, which we should all be eating more of. The Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council funded an IFR study into starch last year. He says: "People often don't know what foods contain starch, so they are ambivalent about it. Worse, starchy foods like bread and potatoes have a bad image, so people wrongly avoid them."

'Healthy eating should not just mean rabbit food'



As a nation we may think we eat a healthy diet, but we suffer from "optimistic bias" — a tendency to overestimate the healthiness of our regular food intake

You say tomato, I say genetics

On a recent tomato purge hunt at the supermarket, I was confronted with a new choice: my regular brand and the (cheaper) stuff made from genetically modified tomatoes. Anjana Ahuja writes. A lower price seemed the only advantage, so I opted to stick with the familiar.

My decision was based on suspicion. I know a gene in the tomato was merely tweaked to prevent it rotting quickly, and I know that cross-breeding and random genetic mutations may eventually have led to the same, hardy fruit but, when it came to buying, I wriggled out.

According to research, my prejudice is shared by thousands. As a nation, we are worried about genetically engineered animals. We are less worried about modified plants and the uses of genetic manipulation in medicine. And women, the dominant force in the supermarket, are more concerned than men about food containing genetically engineered ingredients.

"Women tend to see more risk in technological developments than

LABORATORY-MADE FOOD



Women in Vigo, Spain, lunch on a range of locally grown produce

men do," Dr Lynn Frewer, a research psychologist at the Institute of Food Research at Reading, says. "One reason may be that women think of the consequences if something goes wrong, whereas men look at how likely or unlikely something is to go wrong."

people to stick with the traditional? Apparently not. According to Dr Frewer: "The environmental movement took off relatively recently, so it is associated with young people who are more concerned about the implications of genetic engineering. Older people are less worried. They were brought up in a society which viewed science as a good thing, so they are more likely to trust in it. During the early part of this century, people were very positive about technological progress."

That all changed around the Sixties with the publication of *Silent Spring* by Dr Rachel Carson, which looked at the impact of pesticides on the environment. That's when people started counting the environmental cost of technology." However, Dr Frewer thinks that we might be persuaded to buy laboratory-made foodstuffs if there were a benefit other than price. "Being cheaper is not enough. People would be more supportive if it meant helping animal welfare, or if the product was better for us," she says.

Peanuts and other enemies

ALLERGIES

AS WIDELY reported, public concern over food allergies has encouraged the supermarket chain Safeway to offer in-store allergy tests. Shoppers willing to part with a blood sample and at least £12.99 can be tested for up to 150 allergies.

According to subsequent media reports, this move caused concern among health professionals who advised worried shoppers to save their money and visit a GP. The stories highlight a widespread ignorance about food allergies which the Institute of Food Research is trying to clear up.

By rights we should all be allergic to food. Our bodies are programmed to recognise "foreign bodies" and reject them.

Food and drink would certainly qualify as alien, and it is a tribute to the sophistication of our immune systems that we can survive the daily assault of breakfast, lunch and dinner.

However, this remarkable, and not fully understood, talent for sifting out the nutrients from the harmful invaders can break down dramatically in the case of food allergies. In a project funded to the tune of £100,000 by the European Union, the IFR will try to discover the roots of these allergies.

"An allergy is a specific response mediated by the immune

system," Dr Ian Johnson, of the IFR, says. "Typical symptoms are sneezing, swelling and severe itching. Peanut allergies are more serious because they can lead to death. In this case, people are allergic to an unknown component in the protein found in peanuts."

The IFR project will look not at peanuts but at cow's milk. However, the results should provide a basic model for all food allergies. Dr Johnson says: "An allergy to cow's milk is relatively common in early life, but we don't know what the immune system is responding to. Our aim is to identify the short sequences of protein which turn on the immune system."

Let's get one thing clear — **doing the books** is not my idea of fun. I'd much rather be out there **doing the business**. But if **Instant Accounting** software has done one thing, it's helped me realise the importance of **proper credit controls**. Before, I just gave everything to my accountant, and he'd tell me how well or badly I was doing. I had no way of seeing the **bigger picture**. Now, with **Instant Accounting**, I can see who owes me and who I owe straight away. I'm much tougher on the price I pay for materials, and I can tailor the discount I pass on to customers. I must admit, because it's only a small business I was reluctant to **computerise the accounts** at first, but my **accountant convinced me**, and I'm glad he did. I still can't honestly say that **Instant Accounting's** made bookkeeping enjoyable, but it's made me a **better businessman**, and you can't put a price on that, can you?



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Not quite the Iron Chancellor

Bismarck wouldn't risk Kohl's Europe, says Daniel Johnson

Helmut Kohl has been German Chancellor for longer than Tony Blair has been an MP, so it was a singular mark of respect for him to invite the Labour leader to Bonn. But Kohl, who styles himself "Chancellor of German Unification", holds an office that was created by a man with a prior right to that title: Prince Otto von Bismarck. And there are signs that the Iron Chancellor is being dusted down as a model.

The erection of Bismarck's statue in the heart of Berlin last week had a resonance transcending the usual pieties of nations towards past statesmen. The reunification of 1990 has prompted curiosity about the unification of 1871. Even more than Frederick the Great — whose bones were reburied in Potsdam in a ceremony that also had Kohl's blessing — Bismarck casts a long shadow. The Nazis appropriated Bismarck, and the Allies demonised him, as a symbol of militarism, but there is now an overdue revisionism in German history to correct the postwar bias against Prussia and its nobility. A personal factor is also apparent: now that Kohl's tenure in office has outstripped Adenauer's, he is looking farther back, to find an elective affinity with the founder of the Kaiserreich.

There are legitimate parallels. After uniting Germany, both tried to allay the anxieties of Germany's neighbours by building alliances: like Bismarck, Kohl supports the welfare state as a means of outflanking the Left; like Bismarck, he has a healthy respect for Russia. Bismarck subordinated national and regional interests to those of the Hohenzollern dynasty; Kohl's critics would say that he has been similarly ruthless towards the East German provinces, and indeed in his European policy.

But Bismarck's background had nothing in common with Kohl's. The Bismarcks were landowners and soldiers in Brandenburg; Kohl's Rhenish ancestors were, like him, Francophile Catholics, whose loyalty to the Kaiser had been severely tested by Bismarck's Franco-Prussian War and his Kulturkampf against Rome.

Politicians take a highly selective view of their heroes — think of Thatcher's Churchill or Clinton's Kennedy — and Kohl is no exception. His image of Bismarck is certainly not that of the Left. A.J.P. Taylor depicted him as a monster who showed contempt for constitutional rule by addressing the Reichstag in military uniform, who undermined liberalism, brutalised culture and society, and so paved the way for lunatic German expansionism. Fritz Stern demolished the myth of Bismarck's philo-Semitism.

The standard modern life of Bismarck, by Lothar Gall, depicts him as a "white revolutionary". This Bismarck is a radicalised Metternich, who has learnt from 1848 how to mobilise nationalism for his own purposes — not so much a conservative monarchist as a reactionary nihilist.

The study of Bismarck that comes closest to Kohl's ideal is by one of Germany's most influential opinion-formers, Michael Stürmer, subtitled *The Limits of Policy*. His Bismarck, a master of geopolitical restraint, insisted on observing the natural boundaries of this land in the middle of Europe. Continuing traditional Prussian policy by other means, he fought several short wars to create the new German Empire, then spent two decades of peace anchoring it in a system of continental alliances.

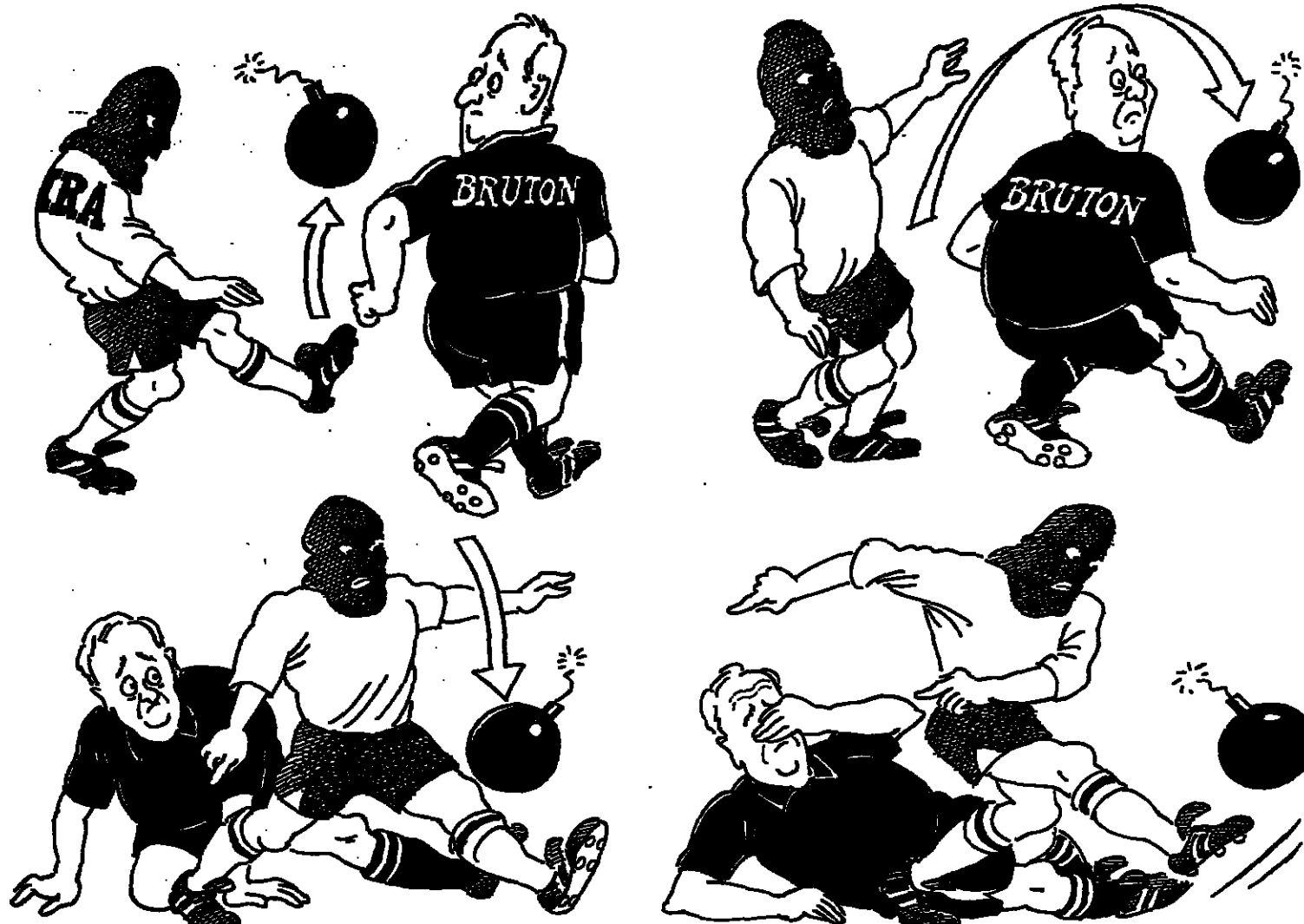
For Stürmer (and Kohl), Europe's "honest broker" preserved the balance of power for two decades, though at the price of alienating Russia. [Kohl tried to avoid that error by placating Gorbachev and Yeltsin at every point.] In 1890, Wilhelm II dropped his "pilot". The young Kaiser wanted colonies and a navy to secure a "place in the sun", and provoked enmity by neighbouring powers who feared German domination of Europe. Hitler only repeated the Kaiser's errors on a more catastrophic scale, departing even farther from the Bismarckian legacy. Stürmer, a conservative statesman, calls for Germany to restore its central place in the balance of power.

Kohl has outlasted Adenauer, but not yet Bismarck

The 19th-century image of Bismarck as the puppet-master of Europe derives above all from the Paris correspondent of *The Times*, Henri de Blowitz, who spent an evening with Bismarck at the Congress of Berlin in 1878 and was permitted to publish an account of their conversation — the first notable example of the journalistic interview. This scoop helped Blowitz to obtain an even greater one, the text of the treaty itself, and he dined out on his intimacy with Bismarck for the rest of his career.

Bismarck himself despised Blowitz and all journalists, keeping a "reptile fund" to corrupt the press. But after his own fall he became one himself. Shunned by politicians, though revered by students, the old prince spent much of his time dictating leading articles to a loyal Hamburg newspaper editor, in which he predicted impending doom and sharply criticised his successors' policies.

Whether Kohl will ever treat to his lair to hurl bricks at his successors remains to be seen. But were his European project to founder, between the Scylla of economic forces and the Charybdis of public opinion, a prematurely retired Kohl might vent his anger on the British Eurosceptics. Bismarck was wiser: "Politics is the art of the possible," he said at the outset of his career, and, at the end: "We are a saturated power." For all its faults, Bismarck's unified Germany lasted 50 years; if Kohl has his way, his will have lasted barely a decade before it is subsumed into a federal Europe. Such haste is more reminiscent of the Kaiser's megalomania than of Bismarck's caution.



THAT GOAL IN FULL

Peter Brooks

Divorce is about remorse

Marital collapse is shown as glamorous, but the wise keep quiet and mourn

I am the dog that did not bark in the night. Although required by my trade to stand on a column and gesticulate grandly once a week, one subject I have neatly avoided. In all the months of debate about the Family Law Bill, I have never put in my pennyworth about the concept of fault in divorce, nor analysed the decline of marriage, nor even taken sly swipes at the moral status of commentators who pontificate (on both sides) without being quite frank about their personal interest in the easier dislodgement of other people's spouses. I have — until this moment, when the Bill stumbles towards its final hurdle — kept my mouth shut.

This is not for lack of an opinion. In fact, I am a realist and thus a rueful supporter of Lord Mackay of Clashfern's Bill, although some of the modifications were badly needed. As to the individual and public conduct of divorced people, there is plenty that anybody with their eyes open could say, and much of it is astirring and therefore tempting.

No: this silence in fact has had a curiously shameful quality about it. Nobody, in writing about divorce, is without a personal hinterland, and mine hinders me. I have been married for 16 years; neither of us has ever divorced, nor are we children of divorce (although not children of idylls either). Despite interludes of teeth-grinding irritability, divorce has not occurred to either of us as a realistic way out of the common frustrations of the state. Moreover, none of my three siblings has divorced or even taken up with a divorcee. My husband's uncle did it, but that was back in the days when it was considered so disgraceful (in Yorkshire, anyway) that the culprit's sister wouldn't leave the house while the case was on, lest fingers be pointed.

What do you feel, reading this confession? Envy? No; more likely a kind of contempt. This *Purves* woman plainly lives in an ivory tower, knows nothing of Real Life, hardly belongs to the modern world at all. She is probably unadventurous, unimaginative, timid and hidebound: what the Americans call a "cocooner", terrified and inhibited. A retard. The commonly quoted statistic that more than half the weddings of today will end in divorce (although that is actually a projection, not a fait accompli). Therefore

to be left out of the divorce culture, not only personally but in the extended family, is vaguely seen as a laughable oddity: rather like not being on mains electricity or the telephone. If you can't toss "my ex" into the conversation, if all your children share the same genes and have a resident Daddy, you are socially regarded as — well, a bit of a pudding.

Since I claim no particular merit for my divorceless background (it just happened, there is no secret formula), I slightly share that sense of contemptibility myself. If you are

"just plain married", you are these days very easily made to feel odd, naive, and unworthy to comment on the family. There is a pervading atmosphere created and constantly reinforced by television, novels, magazines, newspapers and films: it has not only normalised divorce but gone beyond it to make the collapse of a marriage actually rather glamorous.

If you don't believe me, flick through the interview, literary and showbusiness pages of any periodical, and count how many times marital breakdown is implicitly treated as an unmissable life-experience, a personal test, a "learning curve" or stimulus for creativity.

How many agony aunts have you heard bragging of how they've "been through it"? How many novels celebrate the "escape" from a bad marriage of a feisty heroine? Or, indeed, hero: a gritty New York love story on Radio 4 the other day began with a casual mention that the hero left his wife and baby because she grew fat. The book trade, my publisher unkindly tells me in the context of my own woefully divorce-free fiction, now has a welcome classification called BOF: it stands for Boring Old Husband books. Guess how they end.

How many celebrities, authors, actors, wear their failed marriages like campaign medals? How many

murmur modestly that they have "made mistakes", expecting and getting a pat of sympathetic approbation in the next paragraph? Only yesterday in these pages, Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber was clapped on the back for being on good terms with both of his ex-wives, as if that were somehow a better achievement than if he had managed to stay married to one of them.

As for blame, that is out of the question. Reacting against the centuries of taboo and shame, we bend over backwards not to judge. If you doubt that, and point at the "moral" uproar in papers like the *Daily Mail* over Lord Mackay's Bill, just pause and consider how that paper and others actually treat those involved in divorce. Who are the two modern goddesses of family life, patronesses of babies and children, fed for their compassionate wisdom? Why, Esther Rantzen and Anne Diamond: yet both are married to men who — during their courtship — were already married with children and living at home. The first wives have, as first wives do, become invisible. As for politicians, we may have a perception that extramarital breakouts ruin them, but it isn't necessarily so. Look at Lord Lawson of Blaby, or Steven Norris.

I do not really want to bandy names, or to regret that the ruin and disgrace has gone. All I nervously suggest is that the pendulum should swing back a little way, and that the end of a marriage should be generally acknowledged to be what it is: a messy, unhappy, boring, disgraceful business with no merit in it whatsoever. Any divorce is the result of some combination of bad or stupid things either in you or the person you selected: misjudgment, a lack of perception, of charity, chastity, tolerance, determination. I do not censure: we all lack virtue at times, with different results. But it should be clearly recognised that divorce is more like a pointless road accident than an act of heroism, more like

tripping on a kerbstone while drunk than leaping a challenging hurdle. There certainly is merit in minimising the damage, by being fair to your children and civilised with your spouse; but it is not the same quality of merit as if you had overcome some disaster which was not your fault. You did it: so you clear it up, then keep quiet.

The curious thing is that despite the self-justifying media culture, a lot of private people actually do feel just like that. I know enough of them to see that when they are quiet and private and honest among friends, divorcees keenly express all the failure and remorse that any moralist could hope for. In people who are not plumb stupid, or self-deluded Mr Toads, there is always a kind of mourning or at the very least a sheepishness when a marriage ends. This natural instinct to pause and mourn is healthy, which is why I can never swallow the extreme line put forward by such as Polly Toynbee that divorce is a brave, basic liberty because "life is not a rehearsal". Frankly, Polly, life is not a free-form self-expression therapeutic theatre workshop, either.

Lord Mackay's Bill — which as I write, hangs in the balance — seems to me to recognise that. By removing fault, it does not remove responsibility; nor does it undermine the status of marriage, because the time is long gone when anybody took a private moral lead from the technicalities of law. The new rules eliminate much bitterness — therefore much of the drama, therefore some of the glamour — of divorces. Three-quarters of them will actually be slowed down by its compulsory period of reflection and "mediation". I very much hope the mediation is as embarrassing and unglamorous as it sounds, and that it cannot be avoided even by the Bobs and Paulas and Mellors and Lawsons.

I would have liked to see pensions split, and children's rights more hawkishly upheld in those cases where affluent absentee parents pay peanuts to the first family (just enough to keep it from costing the Government money and triggering the CSA) while the second family gets the luxuries as well as the love. But with all its faults and for all its patchwork structure, the Bill will do more good than harm.

If, as an outsider, I may say so.

Libby Purves

Denis's bride

THE WARTIME wife of Sir Denis Thatcher, the woman he always remembered fondly for her beauty, has died.

"Margot" Kempson was Sir Denis's wife only for a few years. Their marriage collapsed shortly after the war, and she married the late Sir Howard "Tim" Hickman to become Lady Hickman. She was strikingly pretty, as Carol Thatcher discovered when finding photographs for her recent biography of Denis: "I was struck by how captivating she'd been, with classic, hauntingly beautiful features, luminous skin, blonde hair, a magnetic smile and dancing eyes."

When Sir Denis heard that his daughter had visited Lady Hickman, he paused for a moment and looked misty-eyed. "Is she still incredibly beautiful?" he asked. Carol was not told about Sir Denis's first wife until the second Mrs Thatcher broke it to her at the age of 23. "It was a war thing," she said. "Your father doesn't like to talk about it."

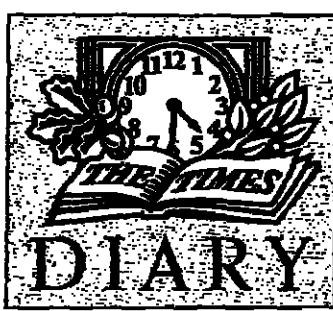
Interviewed for Carol's biography *Below the Parapet*, Lady Hickman said: "I wasn't a bit academic. I'm afraid." In courtship,

the couple stayed at the Dorchester, which was "lovely. It was the place — I mean it was so expensive, £5 a night or something. We used to meet in the little cocktail bar."

Although she looked a little like Baroness Thatcher, she could hardly have been less like her in person. No one ever called the Iron Lady frivolous, extravagant and fun.



The frivolous first Mrs T



● I'm told that Tony Blair plans to drop in to the Grosvenor House Antiques Fair to snap up a porcelain sugar basin offered for £175 by London dealers Kraber & Kraber. The bowl and its cover would sit happily on a mantelpiece at No 10 — already decorated by saucer dishes from the same 18th-century service.

Big pop

FULL MARKS to James Whitbread, 24, scion of the beer-brewing family, who celebrated in style at the end of his Classics finals in Oxford. Spurning cans of bitter, the scruffy Old Etonian opted for a £500 bottle of champagne.

Struggling under the weight of his Nebuchadnezzar — the equivalent of 20 bottles of Moët et Chandon — young Whitbread tottered

towards the New College lawns: there, he settled in with friends. "There wasn't a pint in sight," said an onlooker. "The bottle was drunk within two hours. And so was James."

Tap off

BEST WISHES for a speedy recovery to David Evans, the noisy Euro-sceptic Tory MP for Welwyn, Hatfield, who is limping after suffering a nasty injury while tap-dancing. The former Aston Villa reserve-team player and chairman



"Oh no! I've missed the divorce Bill vote"

of Luton Town FC was given a pair of tap shoes and a series of lessons by his daughter for Christmas. Disaster struck after seven lessons.

"I was the oldest in the class by 30 or more years, and felt a bit of a prat," hollers Evans. "But I was becoming quite good and planning to do a show for MPs. Then I got out of bed one morning and I couldn't walk, and now I'm on the verge of having my ankle put in plaster. It's very painful but it's funny, isn't it?"

● Frantic excitement in the PR department at Moss Bros, which called yesterday with news of a customer. "O.J. Simpson's been in. He's been kitted out for Ascot. Would he be admitted to the Royal Enclosure? Would he meet the Queen? No, as it turned out, Moss Bros had confused O.J. with his lawyer Johnnie Cochran, who will be attending the race meeting."

Bearish

NEVER MIND the slugging match between Boris Yeltsin and Gennadi Zyuganov; the real heavyweight of Russia's presidential election was Yuri Vlasov. A photograph of this quiet intellectual, who polled just a fraction of 1 per cent in the election, proves my point. He was the 21-stone bear



Vlasov: aweighing his time

who grunted his way to Olympic gold in 1960.

Vlasov fought off all-comers to remain the strongest man in the world for three years. Then he disappeared for three decades to prepare his presidential bid, aged almost 70. During that time, the donnish, bespectacled strongman wrote philosophy and poems while spending his free moments birdwatching. Now a weightlifting comeback beckons in Atlanta.

Dare we intern the IRA?

Woodrow Wyatt

says Dublin is

now ready to assist

In dealing with the IRA gunmen, we have been afraid to strike. The ceasefire of August 1994 was welcome, but it was never the harbinger of lasting peace. The IRA was forced to proclaim it because it was suffering from a long period of attrition, inflicted by our intelligence and security forces. Time was needed to regroup, to find and train recruits. The period of peace, brazenly offered as permanent, was also used to promote the impression that Sinn Féin and the IRA had decided that they would gain more influence by democratic persuasion than by violence.

The illusion was created that Sinn Féin and Gerry Adams were the nice guys earnestly arguing with the IRA leaders the case for arms decommissioning, as though they were two distinct organisations and not the same one, as they have always been. So they were fêted by Mr Clinton in the US, and when the President visited Northern Ireland the hypocrites enthusiastically played their part in the little-children-shaking-hands-across-the-divide show. From the first they were reluctant to put up candidates in the election for representatives at the Stormont talks, knowing they would be too heavily outnumbered to count. Seeing this was unpopular, they switched temporarily to the ballot box but refused to meet the condition of a permanent ceasefire which would have allowed their representatives to attend.

All the while, the internal cruel punishments, tortures and murders of backsliders continued. In the Republic, armed robbery persisted. But the murder of detective Garda Jerry McCabe in the Republic the weekend before last went too far, that, combined with the Manchester bomb, infuriated John Bruton, the Irish Prime Minister, and forcibly reminded the Republic's citizens (of whom never more than a tiny percentage vote for Sinn Féin) of the dangers and nature of the IRA. As the scales fall from their eyes, they see it for what it is: a collection of protection racketeers, drug dealers and gangsters who trap young idealists into their services, brainwashing them into believing they are fighting for the sacred cause of a united Ireland.

The IRA's intentions in this regard have never been hidden. United Ireland must come by violence, or the threat of it, and the IRA must have the sole credit for winning it. It would be no democracy, but rule by gurus for the benefit of the corrupt crew wielding them. Our intelligence services know the leaders, without whom the IRA would collapse. When we last tried internment, we too frequently arrested suspects who were innocent, and had no co-operation from the Republic. Without that, the wanted terrorists were able to escape with impunity across the border and return undetected.

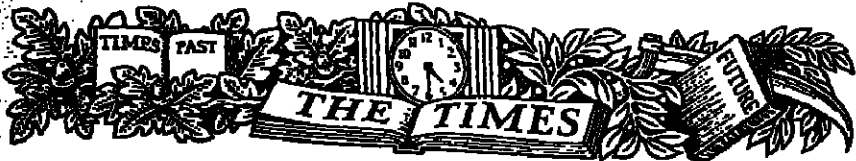
Now that the Dublin Government is fully aware that the terrorists neither want peace nor will honour any they pretend to agree to, it would probably co-operate fully with a return of internment. The provisions for its reintroduction are still on the statute book. First there should be a meeting between John Bruton and John Major and their security advisers. Internment should then be reintroduced suddenly, without public warning. Our intelligence services are far better informed than they were, and we have sufficient troops on the ground to support the police in making their arrests. Objections from the EU or any of its instruments must be ignored. The responsibility for imposing peace everywhere in the United Kingdom is ours alone.

This would be easier if it were compulsory for all in the UK to carry identity cards with photographs to be shown on demand to any police officer; those not UK citizens should have an identifiable document available. Online systems can respond in a flash if the information on a card is not genuine — or if it is, with details of any past criminal record, association with criminals, terrorists or suspected terrorists. A strange squeamishness has for too long prevented us from introducing identity cards. Had these been in force, the police would have asked to see the identification of the driver of the truck carrying explosives to blow up large chunks of the City of London, and that explosion would never have occurred. The recent Docklands outrage would probably have been stalled too.

There will never be a better time than now to be tough. Prospects will brighten as we seem more determined to stamp out attempts at violent disruption by the IRA/Sinn Féin. Fortunately in Michael Howard we have a Home Secretary not afraid to be tough in the face of squawks from liberal judges prating about the civil liberties of murderers.

After its betrayal by Gerry Adams, the American Administration is smarting, but since the terrorists will not be present, the constitutional talks at Stormont should not be hampered in reaching sensible conclusions under the chairmanship of Senator George Mitchell. The chance of a lasting peace in Ulster, paradoxically, has improved as a result of the last fortnight's events.

P.H.S



THE FALLEN MIGHTY

Journalists must describe power as and where they find it

It was Enoch Powell who observed that politicians complaining about the press are like sailors complaining about the sea. Mr Powell's own message was not always reported as subtly as it might have been. Nevertheless, he understood the indignity of politicians raging about what they cannot and should not control when there is so much else that they can and should do to shape the life of the nation.

In the 11 days since it was first reported in *The Times*, a parliamentary motion deploring the way in which politics is reported in Britain has attracted the support of more than 50 MPs, including the former Cabinet Minister, David Howell and the former Chief Whip, Tim Renton. The substance of the MPs' complaint, as outlined by Mr Renton, is that "serious reporting and analysis of politics" is "in steep decline". Britain's "cynicism and hopelessness" is blamed on the "inability of the quality papers to tell... a story that reflects well on our country". He alleges that newspapers, including *The Times*, have failed in their traditional duties and asserts "how are the mighty fallen".

Let us assume that Mr Renton is sincere in his belief about the declining standards of others. Curiously his co-signatory, David Howell, writing last December in the *Evening Standard*, opined that the press "has given the select committees and backbench MPs exposure beyond the wildest dreams of 30 years ago". By almost any standard, however, the real business of politics is now reported in greater depth than ever before.

Some worthy Commons stories may be squeezed out by the dominance of issues such as Maastricht and the greater attention paid to political activity outside Westminster. Stories that used to serve the politician and the journalist more than they served the reader are rarer too — and rightly so. But the job of the political journalist at *The Times* remains, as ever, to examine the

use of power where it is exercised. There is less reporting of what goes on in the chamber because authority has seeped elsewhere. Our predecessors fought hard for us to have access to the power of parliament; they would not thank us for continuing to report in an unchanged way when so much in politics has changed.

For most of those changes the press can bear little responsibility. If ministers prefer to announce policy in short announcements on radio shows rather than long speeches in the House, that is a matter for them. Whether the cause of changes be the post-war growth of the welfare state and its proliferating executive arms or the more recent transfer of power to closed rooms in Brussels, the political pattern has clearly altered. MPs have acquiesced in decisions of EU councils, quango boardrooms and Cabinet committees. Those are the conclaves where journalists should and do look. MPs should reflect on what they have done to preserve parliament's sovereignty.

Such reflection might help Mr Renton to understand why the English are, in his words, "doubtful about their nationality". Mr Renton thinks it may be due to editors who do not, in the manner of some papers on the continent, publish stories that "reflect well on the country". Perhaps. But then those doubts might also stem from a lack of leadership by politicians.

National self-confidence is unlikely to be helped when MPs argue that Britain's prosperity depends on membership of the EU rather than the endeavour of its citizens and when governments subcontract management of the currency abroad. Arguments such as these have been made before, in Parliament, by men such as Enoch Powell who recognise that a nation will have confidence in its politicians only if politicians believe in the nation. It is a pity that elder statesmen such as Mr Renton are not making that case now. Or, as we are tempted to say, how are the mighty fallen.

HALF WAY THERE

Boris Yeltsin has kept anti-Communist hopes alive

Russia's democratic revolution has rounded, somewhat unsteadily, another hairpin bend. In Sunday's first round of the presidential elections, the turnout was respectably high, proving that however low politicians may have sunk in their esteem, Russians still take their right to vote seriously. International observers have given the voting process a reasonably clean bill of health. As for the results, they give more hope to reformers than seemed possible only months ago.

The prospect of another Communist in the Kremlin, while it cannot yet be dismissed, is receding. Boris Yeltsin, who only a few weeks ago was well behind Gennadi Zyuganov, his Communist challenger in next month's run-off, has vaulted out of the political grave. Mr Zyuganov's diet of gloom laced with nationalism has proved less digestible than his advisers expected. Even with a vast machine and the discontents born of a decade of disorderly change, his support remains stuck at about the level of last December's elections. However much Russians fear the present, his promised march in reverse appears to have re-awakened grim memories of the Soviet past.

The battle is not yet over. Nobody except the President himself expected an outright first-round victory. Mr Zyuganov came within three percentage points of Mr Yeltsin's 35 per cent score and most politicians would think that margin too narrow for comfort. The question is where those votes will now go. Mr Yeltsin lost no time yesterday in juggling the pack. If he now appears to hold a better hand than his rival, that is because a vitally important shift on the nationalist Centre and Right has deprived the ultra-nationalist Vladimir Zhirinovskiy of the role of kingmaker.

That role has passed to Aleksandr Lebed, the retired general whose appeal to voters as a political outsider has affinities with that of General Colin Powell in America. Add to that his deadpan, gravel-voiced indictment of corruption, crime and national decline: and the result was the theft of Mr Zhirinovskiy's thunder and nearly 15 per cent of the vote. There is little doubt about his authoritarian leanings; yet because he first leapt to national prominence as the commander of the battalion that defended the White House during the failed 1991 Communist coup, democrats see him as a general who, potentially at least, is on their side.

Both the Yeltsin and Zyuganov camps will woo him ardently. Mr Lebed has all but ruled out alliance with the Communists, though some of his followers might switch to Mr Zyuganov. But he will exact a high price for supporting Mr Yeltsin, whom he once famously dismissed as "a political minus". He is virtually assured of a key position in a new Yeltsin government — possibly that of deputy prime minister with overall responsibility for internal security and defence. That alliance, coupled with the 7.4 per cent of first-round votes for Grigori Yavlinsky on which Mr Yeltsin can certainly count, should see the him home.

For the West, victory for what would amount to a Yeltsin-Lebed team would mean dealing with an assertive, more authoritarian but still reformist Russian government. There would be increased tensions in Russia's "near-abroad" and renewed opposition to Nato expansion, which Mr Lebed is vehemently against. That is so far from the worst possible scenario that freemarketers and democrats will cross their fingers in hope in the coming weeks.

SLEEP OF THE DEEP

All countries should continue saving the whale

Harpoons are being honed again. Only a decade ago whales were breasting the brink of extinction. In 1987 the International Whaling Commission (IWC) instituted a moratorium on all commercial hunting of the species. The oceans became a cetacean sanctuary. Even the chief whaling nations — Japan, Norway, Iceland and the Soviet Union — bowed to international pressure, though a few used the loophole of "scientific" whaling to maintain their relict industries.

In 1993 Norway finally defied the moratorium. With the population of minke whales rising, the Norwegians resumed harpooning again under a quota system. Their renaissance industry is paving a way for other nations. At the IWC's annual conference next week, South Africa is likely to argue for a return to commercial whaling. Pressed by Japan, which helps to fund South African development, and Norway, always a staunch ally of the ANC, Pretoria looks set to end its 1982 ban on whaling within territorial waters.

Whaling nations insist that under revised management procedures commercial hunting of certain species can safely be resumed. Quota systems, they argue, would preserve stocks. Technologically advanced harpoons would ensure that a whale is dispatched rapidly and humanely. With these arguments they hope to silence those concerned as much about cruelty as conservation,

while restoring part of their heritage. Quotas, however, are difficult to enforce — as current Atlantic fishing disputes all too painfully prove. The modern whaling vessel, at sea for weeks on end, is a self-sufficient factory ship able to flense, butcher and pressure-cook an ocean leviathan in less than an hour. Inspectors then await the vessels in port may find it extremely difficult to determine the number and species of the cetaceans slaughtered.

Arguments that certain nations must catch whales because they have, for generations, included whale-meat in their diet are spurious. Norwegians are now embarrassed by blubber mountains; Japanese have learnt to eat beef with no apparent loss of identity.

Little is known about the whale, its migratory and breeding patterns, songs and societies. Population figures can only ever be estimates. It is in the whale's very mystery that its greatest glory lies. The beast meets no pressing nutritional, economic or social needs today. Communities wanting to benefit from whales should protect and value them for the growing number of tourists who delight in watching them at play. A fabulous leviathan of the deep, the whale need no longer, like Tennyson's Kraken, be but once by man and angels seen before "in roaring it shall rise and on its surface die". Instead, it must be left to its "ancient, dreamless, uninvaded sleep".

Delays in Moscow for visas to UK

From Mr Edward Taylor

Sir, The British Embassy in Moscow has again been criticised (report, June 12) for delaying visas, this time to sports fans who wanted to see the Russia-Italy match.

From 1992 to 1995 I was general manager of a joint-venture company employing 250 Russians. During that time I accompanied a number from Russia to the United Kingdom for business and pleasure; they all returned on time.

No doubt some visa applicants tell lies and intend to stay here illegally, but there can be no excuse for the uncivil behaviour of some of the visa officers.

Last year one of my employees spent half a working day outside the embassy and by evening had not reached the head of the queue to hand in his application for a business visa.

A British official assured me on the telephone that no problem existed (although she admitted that she had not been outside the gate and seen the queue), so I went to find out.

Chaos reigned outside the embassy is quick to point out that it has no control over the street or pavement, but when I was allowed in to present my colleague's application the visa officer accused me of jumping the queue. He spoke no Russian and I had to interpret between him and his doorkeeper, who told him that the consul-general had issued instructions that British citizens were allowed in ahead of the queue.

The consul later gave me a generous apology and the visa was ready within 24 hours; but what chance has an ordinary Russian, who has had no previous dealings with Westerners, of speaking directly with the consul?

These people, apparently Home Office officials, are the first British contact for many young and impressionable Russians. It is time the embassy stopped making excuses and citing irrelevant figures, so that Russians get a better impression of Britain and the West.

Yours faithfully,
EDWARD TAYLOR,
Pentecostion, Rhayader, Powys.
June 14.

Water companies

From the Chief Executive of the Water Companies Association

Sir, Mr John Redwood's article, "Presiding over utility monopoly" (June 1), contains inaccuracies which portray the water industry in a potentially damaging light. His suggestion that "water pipes are a national asset" is simply not the case.

Individual water companies are the owners of the pipes within their region of supply. As such, they are responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of these pipes and have invested as much as £922 million over the last five years in improvements to infrastructure.

Moreover, the issue of competition is a complex one. Unlike many of the other utilities, electricity and gas for example, the water industry is not currently structured to accommodate full competition. A number of technical problems would have to be overcome to allow the mixing of water before competition could be introduced, in order to ensure that the high quality of water we presently enjoy in the UK would be maintained. It is too simple to say, as Mr Redwood does, "let others have a go".

In spite of Mr Redwood's view to the contrary, there is a problem — water companies cannot control the original supply of the product they collect, store, treat and distribute. In spite of this, our companies had an excellent track record in meeting customers' requirements throughout the summer drought last year.

Yours faithfully,
FAMELA TAYLOR,
Chief Executive,
The Water Companies Association,
1 Queen Anne's Gate, SW1.
June 14.

Not suited

From Mr Edward Armitage

Sir, Although advanced in years I reckon I know what is meant by a sharp suit; indeed I am fairly sure I have one because my wife won't let me wear it. But I have to confess that I have absolutely no idea what is meant by a shell suit.

Can one walk into an outfitter's and ask to be shown a shell suit and, if so, what are its distinguishing features?

Yours faithfully,
EDWARD ARMITAGE,
11 Cambridge Road,
Ely, Cambridgeshire.
June 13.

Lost on the swings

From Mr Jo Eisenberg

Sir, Dr Stuttaford ("Why golfers are statistically more likely than the bone idle to suffer a heart attack", June 15) postulates that the sedentary couch potato may live longer than the active golfer.

No, Doctor, it just feels longer.

Yours sincerely,
JO EISENBERG,
Jo & Phil Eisenberg and Associates,
Dental Practice,
19 Montpelier Vale,
Blackheath, SE3.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Backing for St Ethelburga proposal

From Professor Maxwell Hutchinson

Sir, The City Corporation's decision to reject the visionary and intelligent proposals for the rebuilding of St Ethelburga's church (report and leading article, June 12) is yet another embarrassing example of reactionary architectural prejudice.

If the Church of England is custodian of our ecclesiastical architecture, how much more so is it a champion of contemporary architecture through such modern masterpieces as Sir Basil Spence's cathedral at Coventry and St Paul's, Sheffield, to mention but two postwar ecclesiastical buildings that give concrete (sic) interpretation of the Church's image for today.

The distinguished judges in a fair competition have had their say. Sadly it seems that their chosen winners will join the ranks of those so wantonly abused at Paternoster Square and the National Gallery.

Yours faithfully,
MAXWELL HUTCHINSON
(President, RIBA, 1989-91),
The Hutchinson Studio (architects),
Connaught House,
80 Wimpole Street, W1.
June 12.

From Mr David Monro

Sir, If the case for the complete restoration of St Ethelburga's is as strong as you make out in your leading article, why was it necessary to pilory the Diocese of London with such phrases as "egregious bungling of this sensitive issue" and "waste further time and money on an appeal"?

To this ordinary member of the

public, the arguments against your view are at least as strong. Surely from the ruin of this outrage there is the opportunity for architectural imagination. If we turn our back on a case like this we do not deserve good architects.

You object that the Blee Ettwein Bridges design would have "preserved the IRA's handiwork forever". The most potent symbol of Western civilisation over two millennia also speaks of barbarism and destruction — a cross.

Replication is not resurrection. Reformation may be.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID MONRO,
4 Inglebert Street, EC1.

From Mr Roger Simpson, RIBA

Sir, The decision by the Diocese of London not to rebuild St Ethelburga's was the correct one, and I trust the new bishop, with the backing of English Heritage and the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, will continue to press hard for the memorial scheme by getting the planning decision overturned.

The church was redundant, unoccupied and disused before the bombing, and it will remain redundant still if restored and rebuilt, an unwanted possession instead of a fitting memorial to a gross act of vandalism.

Yours faithfully,
ROGER SIMPSON,
Chertfield, Park View Road,
Wokingham, Surrey.
June 14.

Education psychology and teachers

From Dr Derek Haylock

Sir, You report (June 12) the assertion of a "senior government source" that "so many of our teachers come out of college... their heads full of education psychology, but having received very little instruction on how to teach children to read, write and do sums". Your source perpetuates a myth about teacher-training.

It would actually be impossible to achieve what your source describes within the accreditation framework of the Government's latest circular on primary teacher-training and the HMI inspection criteria.

Your source is either ignorant of the quality, extent and nature of primary teacher-training in English and mathematics, or is deliberately being misleading, presumably because of some perceived political advantage.

Yours etc,
DEREK HAYLOCK
(Chair of Primary Initial Teacher Education),
University of East Anglia,
Norwich, NR4 7TJ.
June 12.

From Professor Emeritus Hazel Francis

Sir, I should like to take issue with the senior government source quoted in your report on a curriculum for teacher-training.

Educational psychology is precisely what new teachers' heads are not full of. Government regulations on teacher-training over the last decade have seen to it that little if any time is available for such a basic educational discipline.

If attention were to be paid to psychologists' work on children's understanding and learning of reading, writing and numbers, a better job might be made of training teachers to teach them.

Yours faithfully,
HAZEL FRANCIS
(Professor Emeritus of Educational Psychology),
University of London,
Institute of Education,
20 Bedford Way, WC1.
June 12.

From Mr T. S. Moyle

Sir, Fifty years ago, when I left training college, we had been trained to teach reading, writing and arithmetic.

Curb on CO₂

From the President of the Institution of Civil Engineers

Sir, I write to support the call (letter, June 14; see also letter, June 17) from the Chairman of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution and others concerning CO₂ emission after the year 2000. There is indeed "a need for a change in attitude by both Government and individuals."

This institution published, in April, a report, *Sustainability and Acceptability in Infrastructure Development*. It calls for long-term, progressively tightening, fiscal and regulatory programmes which will influence people's behaviour and ultimately the pattern of life in this country. To be of best effect, however, such programmes need to be committed publicly so that individuals and businesses can take decisions on the basis of what is, and in reasonable foreknowledge of what will be.

This cannot be done by government alone; it would require all-party consensus. Indeed many features of the quest for sustainability are so unusual, particularly in their timescale, that they should not be prey to party policies. The party leaders have shown some inclination towards this,

for example in their joint letter to you (February 9) on the Council for the Protection of Rural England. Will they now commit themselves more widely on measures towards sustainability?

In recent years petrol duty has been increased at 5 per cent more in real terms in each Budget. Rumour has it that there is tacit understanding that this would continue under a different government. But people cannot plan their lives on the basis of unspoken policies, and tacit understandings do not amount to leadership.

Why should the three leaders not commit themselves to such a policy for the next 20 years? Let the debate focus on 5 per cent, 7 per cent, or some other figure.

Yours faithfully,
TONY M. RIDLEY,
President,
The Institution of Civil Engineers,
1 Great George Street,
Westminster, SW1.
June 17.

Letters that are intended for publication should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.

Alcohol's effect on sporting prowess

From Professor Timothy J. Peters

Sir, Your correspondent John Goodbody (report, June 13), his "medical and nutritional experts" and the management of the England football team are reassuring about "moderate" alcohol consumption among professional athletes, but this is not a subject for complacency, in both the short and long term, alcohol misuse (acute binge drinking or anything that takes you over the legal limit for driving) impairs muscle function, affecting both red and white muscle fibres. Extensive work in my own and other laboratories (principally in Spain, Australia and the US) has characterised these effects.

Bingeing specifically damages red muscle fibres, essential for endurance sports. In the short term alcohol reduces stamina, compromising performance, for example, in the second half of a football match. Cardiac muscle impairment will also contribute to overall reduction in fitness.

Long-term misuse of alcohol preferentially damages white fibres, necessary for short sprints and jumping sports. This damage to white fibres can occur in susceptible individuals at drinking levels within the recently-raised "safe limits" introduced by the Government. These effects are most marked in the trunk and thigh muscles and clearly would impair the "finishing" of goal scorers.

The good news is that after several months of abstinence and re-education, muscle fibre function will improve, although the extent of recovery is uncertain. This would hold out the prospect of improved results in the 1996 World Cup.

The England team players would therefore benefit if they left the consumption of alcohol, in both the short and long term, to their supporters and advisers.

Yours faithfully,
TIMOTHY J. PETERS
(Editor-in-chief, *Addiction Biology*, Institute of Psychiatry),
King's College School of Medicine and Dentistry,
Denmark Hill, SE5.
June 15.

Millennium exhibition

From Mr Robert Breckman

Sir, I do not agree with your leading article, "Millennium momentum" (June 10), that "Business must not allow the Greenwich Exhibition to fail." The ethos of this Government is that market forces should prevail and by holding to this it abrogates its responsibility to the community.

The arts in this country have primarily been funded by the Government and pressure on the commercial sector to balance their budgets with sponsorship is ever-increasing. Businesses are being asked to pick up the shortfall and somewhere they should be entitled to say enough is enough.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT BRECKMAN,
Breckman & Company,
49 South Molton Street, W1.

Modern manners

From Mrs S. A. Mighall

Sir, If courtesy is to continue to exist, it surely needs to be a two-way street. If anything has changed it is our ability to accept others' courtesy without suspecting an ulterior motive or an assault on our pride.

I hope that whichever young lady offered her seat to Sir Martin Berthoud (letter, June 14) will not be put off by his "semi-courteous (negative) grunt" from acting the same way in future. Courtesy is not, and has never been, confined to the older generation, but if that is to remain the case we must show appreciation and give encouragement to those who display it.

Yours faithfully,
JUDITH MIGHALL,
17 Rowley Road,
St Neots, Cambridgeshire.
June 14.

From Mr J. T. C. Taylor

Sir, As my contemporary, Sir Martin Berthoud (to whom I remember losing a tennis match 45 years ago), has pointed out, finding out how others see oneself can be a chastening experience.

I, too, fondly imagined myself to be a deceptively youthful-looking 64-year-old — only to be disillusioned twice recently, in Prague and Amsterdam. When offering my seat on a tram I was very politely turned down by frail-looking elderly ladies, who both made it clear that they thought I needed it more than they did.

Yours faithfully,
J. T. C. TAYLOR,
Lower Washbourne Barton,
Harbertonford, Totnes, Devon.
June 17.

The road to fame

From the Reverend S. H. Mayor

Sir, Your reference (report, June 13; also letter, June 17) to roads in Milton Keynes named after popular musicians is intriguing; but Frank Sinatra is missing. Should there not be a My Way?

Yours sincerely,
S. H. MAYOR,
10 Sherlock Road, Cambridge.
June 17.

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THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

TUESDAY JUNE 18 1996

British Gas suffers 'crisis of consumer confidence'

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

BRITISH GAS was yesterday declared to be suffering a "crisis of consumer confidence" after complaints over the trading arm jumped to their highest level ever.

Complaints about the trading side of company, which earlier this year vowed that it was tackling customer service standards as a priority, increased 116 per cent last month, according to the Gas Consumers' Council. Ian Powe, director of the council, said "British Gas Trading is clearly experiencing a crisis of consumer confidence. If they cannot sort this out more effectively, they are bound to lose more market

share. This could overcome the loyalty shown by some customers."

British Gas is competing with rival suppliers in the South West where 500,000 customers can now shop around for their gas supply. Tim Eggar, Energy Minister, yesterday said that 50,000 households had now switched supply. After two months, that is much lower than early forecasts which predicted a transfer of about 60,000 in the opening days of the market.

The price competition is in Devon, Cornwall and Somerset where British Gas's rivals are benefiting from being able to buy gas at far cheaper prices. Some are undercutting British Gas by up to 23 per cent.

More customers are expected to switch in late July and early August when the first bills go out to those who moved when the open market started in April.

But Mr Powe said that British Gas would face a faster decline unless it got to grips with its customer service problems. "People are experiencing difficulties across a range of services, billing inquiries, direct debits, etc." The complaints about the company's trading arm, as opposed to its pipelines business TransCo, rose 116 per cent in May compared with May 1995. Nearly 3,000 people said they had had trouble with billing, direct debits and estimates. The total for the first five months of the year

showed a 54 per cent increase over the same period of last year at 11,610.

Earlier this year, Gas Consumers' Council figures for 1995 showed that complaints about the company had risen 102 per cent from the previous year. Nearly 50,000 people had taken grievances to the customer watchdog after complaints to British Gas had proved unsuccessful. Then, Roy Gardner, executive director for supply, retail and service, had said the company would take immediate action on the problem. Since late last year, Mr Gardner has presided over an internal review of customer service standards. The company has put a large amount of the blame for customer com-

plaints on the effects of a restructuring of its operations. But Richard Giordano, chairman, said when presenting British Gas's financial results that the company's performance in customer standards had been lacking. He said the introduction of new technology into traditional systems had been problematic.

British Gas said the Gas Consumers' Council figures did not tally with the company's own figures. A spokesman said the company had not seen any figures from the council since March. But he said: "We cannot pretend there has not been a strain on some systems and we are working hard to get things back in control."

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES		
FT-SE 100	3761.5	(+7.9)
Yield	4.04%	
FT-SE All share	1887.21	(+2.83)
Nikkei	22245.38	(+4.01)
New York		
Dow Jones	5644.28	(-5.17)*
S&P Composite	664.95	(-0.30)*
US RATE		
Federal Funds	5 1/4%	(5 1/4%)
Long Bond	80 1/4%	(80 1/4%)
Yield	7.00%	(7.00%)
LONDON MONEY		
3-mth Interbank	5 1/4%	(5 1/4%)
Life long gilt	104 1/4%	(104 1/4%)
Future (Sep)	104 1/4%	(104 1/4%)
STERLING		
New York		
\$	1.5450*	(1.5370)
London		
DM	1.5453	(1.5371)
DM	2.3453	(2.3405)
FF	7.9555	(7.8398)
Sfr	1.5912	(1.5225)
Yen	108.20	(107.11)
\$ Index	85.8	(85.6)
DOLLAR		
London		
DM	1.5163*	(1.5275)
FF	5.1489*	(5.1760)
Sfr	1.2488*	(1.2555)
Yen	108.85*	(108.15)
\$ Index	97.0	(97.1)
Tokyo close Yen 109.05		
NORTH SEA OIL		
Brut 15-day (Sep)	\$18.10	(\$17.50)
GAS		
London close	\$384.95	(\$384.25)
* denotes midday trading price		

SIB ready to widen copper investigation

By ROBERT MILLER AND OLIVER AUGUST IN LONDON AND ROBERT WHYMANT IN TOKYO

A TEAM of investigators from London's most senior City watchdog is expected to fly to Japan this week as the inquiry into the \$1.2 billion losses run up by Sumitomo, the Japanese trading house, on the copper markets widens.

Jeremy Orme, head of enforcement at the Securities and Investments Board (SIB), the chief City regulator, has now returned from the United States where he was co-ordinating the investigation into the losses run up by Yasuo Hamanaka, Sumitomo's rogue trader. Mr Hamanaka was known in the copper market as Mr Five Per Cent—a reference to the proportion of the market he represented.

Mr Orme and his SIB team may now fly to Japan, where Mr Hamanaka was based and Sumitomo has its headquarters.

The Serious Fraud Office, which was called in a week ago, may also send its own

investigators to Japan and the US but last night no decision had been taken. Officers from the City of London police are assisting the SFO investigation.

The SIB and the Securities and Futures Authority, the watchdog for brokers and futures dealers, began a preliminary investigation into the copper market in 1993 after Codelco, the Chilean Government's copper trading arm, lost some \$200 million through the fraudulent trading activities of Juan Pablo Davila, its chief trader, who is now being held in a Santiago prison.

The copper market and regulators are waiting anxiously for tomorrow's special Prime date settlement day.

This is when tens of millions of dollars worth of long-term copper futures contracts move within three months of their expiry date. Settlements on such contracts move to a daily cash basis and there are fears

that some of the smaller traders on the London Metal Exchange could face financial difficulties.

But Raj Bagri, chairman of the LME, said last night: "We are confident that the market is robust enough to survive this situation including the Prime date."

The copper market proved to be relatively resilient when it reopened yesterday after a weekend of wild speculation. Copper prices initially fell by 7 per cent before recovering during afternoon trading.

The benchmark LME three months delivery copper contract dropped to \$1,800 per tonne from a close on Friday of \$1,980 then recovered to end back at \$1,980.

Regulators accused LME members of fuelling the crisis in order to profit from the uncertainty surrounding Sumitomo.

Traders are said to have overestimated the amount of copper Sumitomo will be forced to sell in order to drive the price down and buy the copper cheaply.

The Bank of England has denied speculation that it was intervening to support the copper market.

One source close to the investigation said: "Where we can use our influence we try to calm the market. But we are not actively buying copper, it is more a case of talking to people."

In Japan, as shares in Sumitomo Corp came under heavy selling yesterday, a senior government official blamed Japanese companies' lax internal controls for the \$1.2 billion loss racked up by the Sumitomo copper trader whose rogue transactions were responsible for wiping 20 per cent off the value of the trading company's shares.

"It's a real problem that a Japanese company failed to detect those huge losses over such a long period," said Tomio Tsutsumi, vice minister at the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI).

Sumitomo, the leading player in the global copper business, announced last Friday that it had run up a \$1.2 billion loss over a ten-year period of unauthorised copper trading mainly by its Mr Hamanaka, formerly its chief copper trader.



Sir Brian Moffat, at Llanwern steel works in Newport, Gwent, steered the business to a profit of £1.1 billion

British Steel lifts profits to record

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

HIGH demand in the first half of last year and the consolidation of new acquisitions combined to produce record pre-tax profits at British Steel of £1.1 billion.

Sir Brian Moffat, chairman and chief executive, said that profits for the year to March 30, which were nearly double those of the previous year, were achieved in spite of a difficult second half in which prices fell due to excess stock.

Destocking in the US and UK has already ended and in the rest of Europe should end by late summer, he said. But he warned that current lower prices on the Continent meant "profits for the current year will be adversely affected". However, he added: "I still expect a year of satisfactory performance."

In spite of increasing net funds to £690 million from £129 million, Sir Brian ruled out a share buyback or a special dividend at present, saying that investing in new

capacity was a higher priority. The company last year secured shareholder permission to buy up to 10 per cent of the issued share capital.

He said efforts to build up British Steel's business in the Asia Pacific region were moving slowly because of difficulties in finding suitable partners.

The company's turnover was 47 per cent up on the previous year at £7.05 billion, boosted by contributions from UES, the former joint venture with GKN that was incorporated into the group last March, and Avesta Sheffield, now over 51 per cent owned. With these stripped away, turnover was up a more modest 10 per cent. The company's shares closed up 0.5p at 178p.

British Steel's earnings per share were up 65 per cent to 38.3p. It will pay a final dividend of 7p a share on August 12, making a full-year dividend of 10p, compared with 7.5p last time.

Salomon poised to sell off TMC

By ANNE ASHWORTH

SALOMON BROTHERS, the American banking group, is close to selling The Mortgage Corporation (TMC), its UK home loans division. First National, Ireland's largest building society and owner of Mortgage Trust, a Dorking-based lender, is the buyer.

The deal has yet to be completed, however, as the final approval is needed of the Central Bank of Ireland and of the Personal Investment Authority, the UK watchdog. Other details have also yet to be resolved. Neither Salomon nor First National wished to comment yesterday.

Besides expanding its UK mortgage operations, First National also has ambitions to buy a UK building society and to become a bank.

TMC, a centralised lender without a branch network, has been the source of controversy since its much publicised launch in the mid-80s. An expensive advertising cam-

paign for the new lender with its competitive rates was fronted by Barry Norman, the TV film critic.

First National is proceeding with its purchase despite an Office of Fair Trading investigation into TMC.

After 300 complaints to Working Trading Standards, the OFT a year ago issued a "minded to revoke" notice against TMC, threatening the withdrawal of its credit licence.

The complaints focused on TMC's vigorous debt recovery methods.

TMC has a £1.3 billion loan book and some 25,000 borrowers paying above-average mortgage rates. Mortgage Trust's standard variable rate is 6.99 per cent.

The disposal of TMC will be the latest in a series of mortgage book sales by foreign banks, encouraged into the UK mortgage market by the housing boom of the Eighties.

US and Europe to discuss 'open skies'

By JON ASHWORTH



Kinnock "pleased"

THE European Commission is to open discussions with America over liberalising civil aviation relations. In spite of opposition from the UK, the move, which follows a series of alliances between airlines, including the planned link between British Airways and American Airlines, will allow the Commission to start negotiating an "open skies" pact with the US. The eventual goal will be to secure greater mutual access to routes and airports for both sides' airlines.

Talks will be split into two stages covering so-called soft and hard rights. Soft rights cover such issues as computer reservation systems, dispute settlement, bankruptcy and ownership rules. Hard

rights involve agreements on capacity, fares and the routes airlines can fly.

Neil Kinnock, EU transport commissioner, said: "I am very pleased with this mandate, which will ensure that EU carriers can take full benefit of liberalised, global air markets and secure for them and their passengers free, fair and above all reciprocal rights across the Atlantic. We start from here. European Union carriers and air travellers can only benefit there's no roll back of any bilateral agreement in existence or under negotiation."

A significant backdrop to talks was last week's move by BA and American, who are seeking to link their operations through code sharing, and by pooling

frequent flyer schemes. They hope to share profits on transatlantic routes.

Only Britain voted against the mandate. Sir George Young, Transport Secretary, described the decision as "regrettable", but was pleased that the scope had been limited. He said: "The UK continues to believe that air service agreement negotiations with the United States are best undertaken by national governments. We know that the major European airlines share our view."

Britain is alone among EU countries in having been able to hold its own on transatlantic routes.

Clamour for progress, page 31

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Resignation setback for Telekom privatisation

BY OLIVER AUGUST

THE stock market flotation of Deutsche Telekom, scheduled for November, suffered another blow yesterday when Rolf Dieter Leister, chairman of the supervisory board, resigned.

The announcement came three days after Germany's parliament withheld approval for deregulation of telecommunications in January 1998 and echoed the resignation 18 months ago of another leading executive amid complaints of meddling by the Government.

"At the age of 55, Leister wants to return to his activities as an independent economic consultant and to undertake new challenges," the company said. "His plans for his own life and career are not compatible with a full mandate of five years."

The company, which is Europe's largest telecoms operator, expects to raise about DM15 billion from privatisation. It will be Germany's largest stock market flotation.

A successor to Herr Leister was not named, but a new supervisory board is set to be elected on July 1 at the annual general meeting.

Herr Leister spent 20 years with IBM, the computer group, and then joined the supervisory board of the German postal service in 1983.

He took over as president of the supervisory board at Telekom when it was turned into a joint-stock company on January 1, 1995. He had held similar responsibilities before the statutes of the company were changed, and has in effect been in charge of the supervisory functions for nearly seven years.

Helmut Rieke, president of the executive board, resigned in December 1994 for what the company described as personal reasons. Sources close to Herr Rieke said then that he was leaving because he disagreed with interference by political authorities in the privatisation process.

Herr Rieke was seen as the architect of the conversion of a great bureaucracy into a commercial operation. The company is still struggling to develop a culture oriented towards the customer.

Telekom faces a European Commission deadline in 13 days' time to open its private networks to competition. This is a condition for an alliance between Deutsche Telekom and France Telecom, known as Atlas, which is linked with Sprint, the US company.

The most recent setback occurred on Friday when the Bundestag, the upper house of the German parliament, blocked the law removing the monopoly of Deutsche Telekom. If the Bill, already passed by the Bundestag, the lower house, is to become an Act, agreement between the two must be reached.

Cornel rescue mission

FROM EILEEN McCABE IN DUBLIN

AN EXAMINER has been appointed to Cornel Electronics, one of Ireland's leading indigenous electronic companies employing 85 people in Dublin.

Its difficulties were caused by the huge costs associated with developing its own high-speed modem and selling it in the competitive European market. Its core product, a data-pump for modems, remains a favourite in the market.

Paul Wyle, of Oliver Freaney & Co, the examiner, will immediately set about a financial restructuring. This will probably include a search for a substantial injection of new capital.



Phil White's company, West Midlands Travel, stands firmly in the front line against pollution

National Express goes green

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

GAS will fuel the journeys of thousands of passengers in the Midlands next year when National Express, the coach company, becomes the first leading transport operator to use gas-powered buses.

The move by National Express to join other smaller companies using gas-fuelled buses is partly a pre-emptive strike against increased anti-pollution laws. National Express is to spend £2 million on 14 Volvo buses fuelled by compressed natural gas. Operated by West Midlands Travel, the group's subsidiary, they will run between Wolverhampton and Walsall from spring next year.

A spokesman for West Midlands Travel, where Phil White is managing director, said: "People are demanding the right to breathe cleaner air. There is more call for cleaner transport and we want to be a step ahead of the game." Gas for the buses, which will operate for five years before a review of the project, will be supplied by British Gas from a gas station at a WMT garage.

Gas buses, at £145,000, cost about £30,000 more than a diesel equivalent but have low emission levels. They are also quieter. The Volvo gas buses are running in Gothenburg and Malmo in Sweden. Elsewhere in the UK, bus companies such as Firstbus have introduced gas-fuelled buses. Southampton's mayor recently followed the example of Citybus, which operates gas buses in the city, and bought a gas-powered stretch limousine.

Pension complaints accelerate

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

PENSIONS watchdogs have got tougher with scheme managers and trustees and referred an extra 200 complaints to the ombudsman last year.

At 309, the number of referrals is the highest ever. Many of those affected have waited for years for a resolution of their case.

The Occupational Pensions Advisory Service (Opas), an independent charitable organisation which

made the referrals, said in a report yesterday that pensions complaints were becoming more complex. Employers were still failing to give scheme members clear information and many pensioners remained confused about the benefits they should be receiving.

Brian MacMahon, president of Opas, said: "A high proportion of recommendations to the ombudsman involves public sector pension

schemes and these result from the lack of flexibility in some of these schemes."

Of the 309 cases which were referred 85 related to the Hill Kestrel scandal of the 1980s. People lost money after being persuaded to transfer out of existing schemes and into Hill Kestrel. These cases remained unresolved for a number of years until the pensions ombudsman was appointed in 1993. This year he ruled in a test case that one Hill Kestrel

complainant should be allowed to rejoin his original pension scheme. Opas then referred 85 similar cases to the ombudsman and says it hopes many of these may be resolved within the year.

Mr MacMahon said small schemes, many of which were administered for fewer than 20 employees, often suffered from a conflict between the employers' role as head of the company and his or her role as trustee of the pension scheme.

Call for reform of Ulster generators

ELECTRICITY prices in Northern Ireland came under increased scrutiny yesterday from the industry regulator for the province. Douglas McIldeon wants an overhaul of the business which delivers power at prices about 20 per cent higher than the rest of the UK because of long-term contracts between the regional supplier and the generators.

In a consultation document on a shake-up of the industry he said that the competitiveness of the generators was at risk unless they moved further in line with the rest of the UK. Mr McIldeon said the present system could not continue as it was. He said that while privatisation had triggered greater efficiencies there was no means by which greater customer benefits were assured. Unlike the electricity industry in England and Wales, the regional company does not buy power from a wholesale market in which prices fluctuate according to demand and plant availability.

Portman to cut rate

THE PORTMAN, the twelfth largest building society, is to follow its major lending rivals and trim a quarter of a per cent off its variable mortgage rate. The move will reduce its lending rate for 80,000 borrowers to 6.99 per cent and save the average homeowner with a £60,000 mortgage about £12 a month. The society will make the announcement today. Ken Culley, chief executive, said details of "favourable deals" for the Portman's 700,000 savers would be announced next month. A number of large lenders have already announced plans to bring down their mortgage rates. The Halifax has said its rate would fall to 6.99 per cent from August. The Abbey National, Bradford & Bingley and Northern Rock building societies have also trimmed their rates.

London Scottish gains

LONDON SCOTTISH BANK, the credit lender and debt collector, lifted its interim dividend by 17 per cent to 0.85p a share after reporting a 22 per cent increase in profits to £4.3 million before tax in the six months to April 30. Bad and doubtful debt provision rose to £1.6 million compared with £975,000 in the same period last year. Total provision for bad debt now stands at 10.5 per cent of loans and advances to customers. The number of loan accounts has risen by more than 12,000 in the past 12 months.

Conrad bid rumours

TRADING in shares of Conrad, the design and distribution group that has Sir Bobby Charlton as a director, was suspended yesterday amid rumours that it is about to bid for Leeds United Football Club. The company asked for the suspension "pending shareholders' approval of reorganisation proposals". The shares had risen by 3p to 54p. It is thought a £20 million offer for Leeds will be announced shortly, and would put Conrad in competition with Caspian, which is reported to be planning a Leeds bid.

Sterling Industries up

STERLING INDUSTRIES, which embraces a group of precision hydraulic and thermal process companies, lifted profits by 14.5 per cent, to £8.1 million, in the year to March 31. The company said that, although its current order books were slightly higher than one year ago, there was a general feeling that trading conditions were tighter. Earnings rose 7.8 per cent to 18.7p a share. A final dividend of 5.7p lifts the total by 13.3 per cent, to 8.5p. The shares were unchanged, closing at 316p.

US factory profits surge

PROFITS of US manufacturing companies rose strongly at the beginning of 1996 after a weak finish in the last quarter of 1995. A survey of about 7,900 companies showed that profits rose to a seasonally adjusted 5.8 cents per dollar of sales from a revised 5 cents in the fourth quarter last year. The improvement was consistent with a pickup in overall economic activity. Profits after taxes during the first quarter were a seasonally adjusted \$32.81 billion on net sales of \$905.43 billion against fourth-quarter profits of \$44.61 billion on sales of \$895.49 billion.

Water company ahead

EAST SURREY HOLDINGS, which supplies water to more than 600,000 people, mainly in Surrey and Kent, reported a rise in pre-tax profits to £15 million in the year to March 31 from £14.4 million previously. Earnings were 49.2p a share against 49.6p. The total dividend rises to 18.6p from 15.7p, with a 12.4p final. During the year the company merged with Cheam Group to bring together East Surrey Water and Sutton District Water. A decision is imminent on the location of a new head office and three surplus sites are to be sold.

London Industrial rises

LONDON INDUSTRIAL, the specialist provider of workspace for rent to small businesses, is lifting the total dividend to 13p a share from 10p, with a 9p final. In the year to the end of March pre-tax profits rose to £4.2 million from £2.4 million, helped by acquisitions. The value of the investment portfolio increased to £103.8 million from £81.7 million. Net assets rose to 34p a share from 33p. Despite a higher tax charge, earnings rose to 21.3p a share from 20.2p. The shares were unchanged at 280p.

Williams sells division

WILLIAMS HOLDINGS has sold its electronics division to management for £71 million. The division, spanning three companies and known as SAIA Burgess Electronics, designs and manufactures electromechanical microswitches, motors and electronic controllers. In 1995 the division earned profits of £8.1 million before interest and tax on sales of £109 million. Net assets were £42 million at the year-end. Williams will retain a 20 per cent interest and has agreed to re-invest £6.6 million in SAIA Burgess.

TUC looks to step up recruiting

BY OUR CITY STAFF

THE TUC today acted to reverse the slide in trade union membership with a warning that the movement should not rely on a change of government to transform its fortunes.

A new recruitment drive was launched as latest figures showed that the number of union members has slumped from 12 million when the Tories came to power in 1979 to 6.9 million at present.

The TUC was holding a special conference in London, attended by 250 union officials who were urged to recruit workers from traditionally non-unionised industries, as well as targeting women and part-timers.

The service sector, including fast food chains and hotels where many women and part-timers work, is "ripe" for recruitment, the TUC said in a report for the conference.

John Monks, General Secretary, said unions should never become an elite club for people in a full-time steady job. "Anyone who believes that union fortunes will change overnight if Labour gets into power is living in a fantasy land. The fate of the union movement lies in our own hands."

BSA seeks society bonus limit

BY ROBERT MILLER

MILLIONS of building society members of less than two years standing could be excluded from future bonus payouts if a recommendation from the Building Societies Association (BSA) is accepted by the Treasury and enshrined in new legislation.

In its response to Angela Knight, Treasury Minister, on a proposed new Building Societies Bill, Adrian Coles, director-general of the BSA yesterday said that it was "totally wrong for carpetbaggers who have just joined a particular society to benefit from bonuses of cash or free shares paid from reserves built up over generations of savers".

The BSA said that in the 1986 Building Societies Act, Parliament never meant short-term speculators to benefit from free share or cash payouts when a society merges or converts to banking status. The association added that the new Bill "would provide a means of restoring the intended position". Mr Coles said: "The Bill provides an excellent opportunity for the Government to iron out some of the distortions applying to mergers and take-overs."

Filofax records strong rise

BY SARAH BAGNALL

A STRONG underlying performance together with an acquisition helped Filofax, the personal organiser company, to lift pre-tax profits by a third to £6.6 million in the year to March 31.

Filofax also revealed it was in a strong position to make further acquisitions, if the right opportunities arose. The news sent the shares racing ahead 19p to 242p — a far cry from the low of 13p in 1990.

Unveiling the advance in profits, Robin Field, chief executive, said: "Our financial structure remains extremely sound and our cash flow strongly positive enabling us to take advantage of further acquisitions where these will



Field: buoyant trading

complement and strengthen the inherent growth of our base business."

The advance in profits was on the back of a 37 per cent rise in sales to £427 million. Topps of England, the manu-

TOURIST RATES

	Bank	Rate
Australia \$	2.04	1.88
Austria Sch	17.47	15.97
Belgium Fr	51.14	48.94
Canada \$	2.26	2.04
Cyprus Cyp	0.756	0.701
Denmark Kr	6.80	6.30
Finland Mk	7.78	7.11
France Fr	6.56	7.70
Germany Dm	2.48	2.28
Greece Dr	367	362
Hong Kong \$	12.17	11.87
Ireland P	1.02	0.94
Israel Sh	5.40	4.05
Italy Lira	2497	2032
Japan Yen	162.10	163.10
Malta	0.396	0.340
Netherlands Gld	2.775	2.545
New Zealand \$	2.43	2.21
Norway Kr	10.59	9.70
Portugal Esc	203.50	208.00
Spain Ptas	204.50	191.50
Sweden Kr	10.52	10.32
Switzerland Fr	2.06	1.88
Turkey Lira	124414	118414
USA \$	1.637	1.607

Notes for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates are at close of trading yesterday.

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AN EXCLUSIVE TIMES COMPETITION

Win a sporting holiday in Florida

Today *The Times*, as part of our celebration of this sensational summer of sport, teams up with Club Med to offer you a week's all-inclusive holiday for two at the luxury Sandpiper village resort in Florida.

Set 70km north of Palm Beach on the Saint Lucie River, the resort is ideal for families, sporting enthusiasts and those people who simply like to add some energetic activity to their main pre-occupation — relaxing in the sun.

Club Med Sandpiper, a haven of American-style and comfort, has a multitude of different sports facilities from golf, tennis, sailing or water-skiing to fitness classes, circus school and roller-blading.

It is also easy to try out a new sport because there are qualified instructors to help you to learn how to slice a golf ball, put a spin on your volley, or swing on a trapeze.

There are four swimming pools, a variety of restaurants and clubs for children from the age of four months upwards.

Club Med opened its first "straw hut village" resort in Corfu in 1952; now it offers all-inclusive holidays for two million members at 110 resorts worldwide.



Your holiday prize includes:

- return flights and transfers to the resort
- accommodation
- full-board including wine, beer or soft drinks with lunch and dinner
- sports facilities and instruction
- children's clubs
- evening entertainment
- fully comprehensive insurance



Simply call our competition hotline, below, with your answer to the following question:

When did Club Med open its first straw hut resort?
a) 1950 b) 1952 c) 1954

The winner will be chosen at random from all correct entries received. The competition hotline will close at midnight Wednesday, June 19, 1996. Normal Times Newspapers competition rules apply.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The holiday prize is for two people for one week to Club Med Sandpiper in Florida. Entry to the competition implies acceptance of rules and conditions as legally binding. The prize must be accepted as offered unless otherwise agreed with Club Med. The

prize is not transferable and no cash substitute is available. The holiday can only be confirmed one month before departure and is subject to availability. It has to be taken outside July and August and other peak periods, and must be taken before December 15, 1996.

□ Taking loyalty to its logical conclusion □ Defence recovery still under way □ Sears has some explaining to do

A game of two-card brag

□ HERE is a splendid idea. You encourage shoppers to your foodstores by offering them cash calculated on how much they spend over the year. That way you build up brand loyalty and a sense of belonging.

It is called the Co-Op divvy, alas, and was practised at Co-Op stores right up to the 1970s. There is therefore nothing terribly innovative about the discount cards emerging out of supermarket trolley wars.

When Tesco introduced its Clubcard loyalty scheme in February 1995, David Sainsbury wrote it off as "electronic Green Shield stamps". This seemed a bit harsh to those of us with fond childhood memories of sticking in huge books of the same, and indeed Mr Sainsbury has been forced to eat his words. His company was insisting yesterday that what he meant was the group would introduce a loyalty scheme when there were clear benefits for customers.

Those benefits had only arrived with the link with British Airways and Air Miles. This is a bit dubious; the Air Miles deal must have taken, ooh, 15 seconds to negotiate given how many such schemes BA already has in existence, but let it pass. What is notable is the poor rewards as yet offered to the customer.

Spend £250 and you get £2.50 off your next basket of groceries.

Put that way, it sounds rather less tempting, does it not? Furthermore, Sainsbury has balked at the next obvious step, extending one loyalty scheme across all the group's retail businesses. Notch up points at Homebase on that store's loyalty card, and you can redeem them at the DIY store and at the grocers. Notch them up at the grocers and you can likewise spend them at both chains. But there are still two entirely separate card schemes, for reasons not at all clear.

One day, perhaps, they will merge. But extend the idea twice more. Add on the banking element of Tesco's Clubcard Plus, which allows money to be carried on the loyalty card and used to pay for the goods. Now extend it across the PLC barrier. You could use the same loyalty card to buy and pay for food at Sainsbury's, clothes at Next, say, DIY goods at Homebase, stationery at WH Smith and records and books at that group's Waterstones and Our Price chains. You already have the link with BA's planes and leisure business...

Should retailers band together in this way, and there seems no reason why they should not in coming years, they would effectively be creating a Balkanised High Street, split into parallel economies.

No money changes hands, so each has its own individual electronic currency. The loyal shopper is tied to just one economy for most of his or her purchases, only tempted to hop across into rival territory where the price savings are too good to miss. Why not? The big grocers have already conceded that in a mature market, loyalty is the only route to expansion.

BAe waits for contract take-off

□ ANYONE brave enough to buy British Aerospace shares in 1992, amid internecine boardroom warfare and a bail-out by shareholders, would be sitting on a near-eightfold profit. Little has stopped their upward progress since the newly knighted Sir Dick Evans and his team have applied the knife to



what was a very sickly patient indeed. But BAe is now entering perhaps the most critical time since that recovery. Before Parliament departs for its summer holiday next month we will learn the fate of three defence contracts in which the company is a strong bidder. Their combined value is £3.4 billion.

Political considerations, stoked by some subtle lobbying, mean that it should walk off with most of the work — certainly the £2 billion replacement for the Nimrod maritime reconnaissance aircraft; maybe the £700 million cruise missile replacement, where BAe is at least joint favourite with the Hughes Aerospace/GEC consortium; and possibly the simi-

larly priced tankbuster air-to-ground missile.

The cruise missile bid is jointly with Matra of France, which is significant as the two groups are trying to get regulatory approval for a £1 billion merger of their missile businesses. Such a merger will almost certainly be the precursor to further alliances within the European defence industry.

Also next month, the chairman of Airbus, Edouard Reuter, will produce a paper detailing plans for the future of the Toulouse-based plane maker. Now that it is a real business, giving Boeing a serious run for its money, the plan is to integrate it formally into a single company ahead of an eventual float. The value is anyone's guess, but upwards of £6 billion is not unreasonable. This would crystallize BAe's 20 per cent stake at more than £1.2 billion.

Hardly surprising that BAe shares have been pretty excitable, up strongly again yesterday. They are currently hovering just under the £10 mark. If all goes well, BAe's recovery will eventually be com-

plete and it will be hard to buy the shares at much under the £14 price tag recently put on them by stockbroker Merrill Lynch.

A bonus too far?

□ EXECUTIVE bonuses are intended to reward performance, and performance is measured by profits — or in Sears' case, alas, the containment of losses. If bonuses turn out to have been calculated on the basis of profits that were not really there, or losses that turned out not quite so containable, they should be repaid.

Sears had a rotten 1995, but investors at least knew with certainty just how much damage the sale of two shoe chains to Stephen Hinchliffe's Facia had done. On that basis, a clutch of bonuses were paid to directors. They still looked generous given that none had met their financial targets, but never mind.

Except that the damage from those disposals turned out to be worse than expected, because the purchaser went bust. The result

was another £25 million out of shareholder funds. Investors meet next week to decide whether to pass a set of accounts that do not reflect in full the fall-out from the Facia collapse.

They are also being denied the knowledge they need to decide whether those bonuses can be justified. In particular, the director in charge of the property side and the ill-fated disposals did rather well for himself. But Sears will not say how his bonuses would have been affected, if at all, by the extra losses that emerged. Business confidentiality, you know. Wouldn't want our competitors to know.

Balderdash. Sears' secretiveness threatens to turn just another fat-cat bonus row into a serious shareholder revolt. If only out of self-interest, the board should make a full disclosure to shareholders.

Continental drift

□ CITY institutions will not much care for having to identify under Labour those management men they have sold down the river in contested bids, but it might be good for their souls. But how strange to see Tony Blair moving towards a two-tier board, structure just as the Continentals are edging away from such and towards more traditional British corporate governance.

Goldsborough rejects £73.6m 'derisory' bid from Westminster

By PAUL DURMAN

GOLDSBOROUGH Healthcare yesterday rejected a £73.6 million offer from rival nursing home operator Westminster Health Care as opportunistic and unwelcome.

Criticised by Westminster for the poor performance of its shares, Goldsborough threw back the same allegation at the bidding company. Westminster's shares have underperformed the FT-SE All-share index by 30 per cent since the start of 1995.

This is the first hostile takeover in the fragmented nursing homes market. Once seen as a major beneficiary of Britain's ageing population, the sector has faced difficulties in recent years because community care legislation has pushed the funding burden on to local authorities.

Pat Carter, Westminster's chief executive, said Goldsborough, based in Leeds, was a good geographical fit with its own operations. Westminster, already the largest of the listed care groups, believes it could run Goldsborough's homes more efficiently. Mr Carter said a deal would create a 7,000-bed network, and would

produce an immediate improvement in Westminster's earnings.

Sir Brian Hill, chairman of Goldsborough, described Westminster's offer as a derisory sighting shot. He claimed Westminster is making its bid from a position of weakness, since it is much more reliant on the slow-growing nursing

homes business than Goldsborough. More than half of Goldsborough's profits come from running hospitals and from providing care in the home. Goldsborough investors accepting the offer would also suffer a 20 per cent cut in gross dividend income, the target company claimed.

Mr Carter said Goldsborough is too small and too indebted to respond to market changes. Westminster is offering 54 new shares for every 100 Goldsborough shares, valuing them at close to 170p — the price at which the company came to market in March 1994. Westminster is also offering a full cash alternative of 150.6p a share.

Westminster also forecast pre-tax profits for the year just ended will be at least 26 per cent up at £17.4 million. Earnings are set to rise by a more modest 5.5 per cent to 23p a share. Westminster is also promising a 6p dividend, an 11 per cent increase. Goldsborough's shares spiralled from 119p to 174p. Westminster closed 4p lower at 314p.

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Takare falls as elderly stay away

LOCAL authorities' problems in paying for the long-term care of the elderly yesterday prompted Takare, Britain's second largest nursing homes company, to warn that it is having difficulty filling beds in its newer homes (Paul Durman writes).

The financial pressure on

local authorities means elderly people are often kept in hospital rather than private sector nursing homes costing upwards of £300 a week. This is blocking beds needed for operations.

Hamilton Anstead, managing director of Takare, said: "Quite a few people in the

industry are talking about things getting very difficult by the autumn."

The knock-on effect on Takare is that it expects to take 18 months to fill its newer nursing homes instead of the usual year. Takare said this will cut into this year's profits. Takare's shares fell 3p to 141p.

WH Smith recruits from Forte

By SARAH BAGNALL

WH Smith, the retail group in the midst of restructuring, has beefed up its management team with the appointment of Keith Hamill, 43, the former finance director of Forte who played a key role in Forte's failed defence against the takeover offer by Granada.

Mr Hamill will join the group on July 1 and take over as finance director from John Napier when he retires on September 1. He will be paid a basic salary of £240,000 and will be on a two-year fixed contract. He will not receive any share options.

Mr Hamill made £625,000 from selling share options in Forte as a result of Granada's takeover.

A former SDP parliamentary candidate, he is said to have agreed a compensation package with Granada, but Granada declined to provide details.

Jeremy Hardie, chairman of WH Smith, said: "I am delighted that Keith Hamill has agreed to join us at what is a critical time for WH Smith."

Last week the retail group, which also encompasses Virgin, Our Price and Waterstones, announced an overhaul aimed at restoring fortunes in its Smiths retail chain. WH Smith's shares rose 1p to 485p.



Keith Hamill takes over as finance director in September

Wagon in profits warning

By MARTIN BARROW

WAGON Industrial Holdings has warned shareholders of a fall in first-half profits as a result of weakening demand in the manufacturing sector.

Paul Taylor, chairman, said it was not yet clear whether the downturn was simply a blip in industrial trends or would prove to be more lasting.

"The year has started quietly and our projections confirm that results in the first half will be lower than prior year," he said.

The downturn was particularly noticeable in the storage products division. The company's other interests span precision engineering and automotive components.

The company reported a decline in profits to £19.9 million from £20.9 million for the year to March 31. Profits from continuing operations rose to £27.3 million from £24.2 million and there was an £800,000 contribution from acquisitions. But there was a £700,000 loss on the sale of properties and a £6.4 million charge against losses on business disposals, including goodwill.

Basic earnings fell to 23.2p a share from 29.17p, although underlying earnings rose to 35.51p from 32.96p. The total dividend is increased to 19.75p from 18.75p, with a 12.75p final.

Wagon shares fell 26p to 348p yesterday.

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Fidelity pays out over late Peps

By CAROLINE MERRELL

FIDELITY Brokerage, one of the UK's biggest execution-only stockbrokers, has been forced to pay thousands of pounds in compensation to customers because it failed to process personal equity plan applications before the tax year ended.

The company refused to comment on the total it had paid but claimed that only 28 of its 15,000 Pep customers were affected. A letter seen by *The Times* reveals a compensation offer of £1,000 made to one customer alone. Others may have been offered more.

Fidelity blamed the problem on the big increase in Pep applications that it had

experienced in the run-up to the 5 April deadline. Bill West, Fidelity Brokerage marketing manager, said the number of Pep customers had doubled over the last 12 months. Many of the new applications were made in the three-week run-up to the end of the tax year.

Mr West said that initially Fidelity had pleaded with the Inland Revenue to allow the Peps to be included in the 1995/96 tax year, but the Revenue refused to allow plans to be open once the deadline passes. The company added that it had not been asked by the Securities and Futures Authority, the regulatory body, to make the compensation payments.

The brokerage firm is unlikely to be the only Pep provider to have run in to

problems. Last year record numbers of people invested in Peps — many just before the deadline.

Fidelity has been spending thousands of pounds on advertising and marketing in an effort to increase its profile in the UK. Its parent company in the US is one of the leading mutual fund managers, with more than £37bn under management.

Mr West said: "We have been running an enormously successful marketing campaign over the last few months."

The brokerage has recently reshuffled its senior management. Judith MacMichael, European marketing director, is to return to the US to become Fidelity vice-president for channel communications.

STOCK MARKET

MICHAEL CLARK

Barclays cashes in its 3i stake for profit of £61m

SHARES of 3i, the venture capitalist, fell 9p to 448p as Barclays Bank became the second shareholder in less than a week to unload its shares in the company.

Barclays, up 6p at 782p, has sold 20 million shares, or 3.4 per cent of 3i, after going ex-dividend. The shares were placed with various City institutions at 450p, raising £90 million. Barclays' profit from the sale is an estimated £61 million, which will be included in its interim results.

In June last year, Barclays, in partnership with Lloyds Bank, Midland Bank and the Bank of England, sold a combined stake of around 21 per cent of the issued share capital of 3i. In January of this year, Midland sold its remaining 5.3 per cent stake in 3i.

Only last week, National Westminster sold 104.3 million 3i shares, or 17.7 per cent, at 445p worth £464 million. The big four banks were shareholders in 3i before it was floated on the stock market in the summer of 1994. It was always intended to reduce their holdings at some stage. Only recently, the 3i share price hit a high of 470p.

Small gains in thin trading was the order of the day for the rest of the equity market and it looks like more of the same in the coming weeks to come.

Today sees the annual exodus of traders and fund managers down to the starting line for Royal Ascot week. There is also Euro 96 and the start of the second test against India, with Wimbledon fortnight just round the corner. This should be enough to keep most traders away from their desks and will no doubt be reflected in turnover levels.

For much of yesterday the FT-SE 100 index struggled to establish a new trading range at which level it could attract fresh buyers. But without any real lead from Wall Street, it found the going hard. At one stage it was sporting a rise of 14 points before halving the lead to finish 7.9 points up on the day at 3,761.5. Turnover was again on the low side, with 712 million shares traded.

City speculators reckon ScottishPower may be about to turn up the pressure on Southern Electric by raising the stakes for Southern Water. ScottishPower's current terms value Southern Water at £1.56 billion, while the terms of an agreed bid from Southern Electric are worth £1.6 billion. Brokers claim Scottish might be prepared to offer £1.64 billion.

ScottishPower ended 11p lower at a three-year low of 304p, while Southern Electric lost 9p at 676p and Southern Water rose 10p to 993p.

Hillside, the food to furniture group, marked time at 182p as Credit Lyonnais Laing, the broker, reiterated its buy stance on the shares. Laing is also a big fan of Lloyds Abbey, 2p firmer at 506p.

Brokers expressed disappointment after British Steel's decision not to operate a share buyback programme for which it had received shareholder approval at last year's annual meeting. Sir Brian Moffat, chairman, said the money would be better used growing the company. "If we



Goldsborough Healthcare gained 55p as it rejected a bid

have a surplus of cash after that then we might consider it", he added.

His comments coincided with full-year figures showing pre-tax profits more than doubled at £1.1 billion. Sir Brian was confident that demand in Europe would begin to recover towards the end of the summer. But destocking would have an effect on demand in

the first six months of the current year, British Steel closed 4p firmer at 178p.

Goldsborough Healthcare leapt 55p to 174p as it rejected a £74.5 million bid from rival Westminster Healthcare, which is offering 54 of its own shares for every 100 Goldsborough shares. Goldsborough described the bid as unwelcome and unsolicited and not in the best interest of the group

or its shareholders. Westminster finished 4p cheaper at 314p.

A profits warning left Takare 3p easier at 141p, after briefly touching 130p. The nursing and residential home care group says the rate at which it has been able to fill its newly commissioned nursing homes has been disappointing and this will be reflected in the profits.

GKN rose 11p to 969p after the group spent £52 million mopping up the outstanding 34 per cent of GKN Transmissions España and GKN Ayra Durex, two of its Spanish subsidiaries. Last year the two companies contributed £32 million to group profits.

WH Smith firmed 1p to 485p after the retailer announced it had appointed Keith Hamill as finance director. He was previously finance director with Forte before its takeover by Granada. Smith has disposed of its 50 per cent holding in Do It All, made heavy provisions and plans to shed 400 jobs.

Better than expected profits news was good for 19p on Filofax at 242p. No yuppies worth his bonus would have been seen without the group's famous personal organisers back in the Eighties. Sales are still booming and the group has rewarded shareholders with a near 30 per cent rise in the dividend.

CGI EDGED: Turnover slowed to a trickle as investors took a back seat before today's announcement concerning the next auction. Brokers expect the Bank of England to issue a five-year floating rate note. The Bank issued several further tranches of index-linked stock yesterday. This included £150 million of Treasury index-linked 2½ per cent 2003 and £150 million of Treasury index-linked 2011. Most of the stock had been sold by the close of business.

In the futures pit, the September series of the long gilt finished unchanged at £104.192 as the number of contracts completed slumped to 27,000.

In longs, Treasury 8 per cent 2015 was unmoved at 99½, as was Treasury 8 per cent 2000 on £102½ at the shorter end of the market.

NEW YORK: Investors on Wall Street remained cautious and by midday the Dow Jones industrial average was 5.17 points lower at 5,644.28.

Barclays takes a profit

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Barclays' profit from the sale is an estimated £61 million, which will be included in its interim results.

In June last year, Barclays, in partnership with Lloyds Bank, Midland Bank and the Bank of England, sold a combined stake of around 21 per cent of the issued share capital of 3i. In January of this year, Midland sold its remaining 5.3 per cent stake in 3i.

Only last week, National Westminster sold 104.3 million 3i shares, or 17.7 per cent, at 445p worth £464 million. The big four banks were shareholders in 3i before it was floated on the stock market in the summer of 1994. It was always intended to reduce their holdings at some stage. Only recently, the 3i share price hit a high of 470p.

Small gains in thin trading was the order of the day for the rest of the equity market and it looks like more of the same in the coming weeks to come.

Today sees the annual exodus of traders and fund managers down to the starting line for Royal Ascot week. There is also Euro 96 and the start of the second test against India, with Wimbledon fortnight just round the corner. This should be enough to keep most traders away from their desks and will no doubt be reflected in turnover levels.

For much of yesterday the FT-SE 100 index struggled to establish a new trading range at which level it could attract fresh buyers. But without any real lead from Wall Street, it found the going hard. At one stage it was sporting a rise of 14 points before halving the lead to finish 7.9 points up on the day at 3,761.5. Turnover was again on the low side, with 712 million shares traded.

City speculators reckon ScottishPower may be about to turn up the pressure on Southern Electric by raising the stakes for Southern Water. ScottishPower's current terms value Southern Water at £1.56 billion, while the terms of an agreed bid from Southern Electric are worth £1.6 billion. Brokers claim Scottish might be prepared to offer £1.64 billion.

ScottishPower ended 11p lower at a three-year low of 304p, while Southern Electric lost 9p at 676p and Southern Water rose 10p to 993p.

Hillside, the food to furniture group, marked time at 182p as Credit Lyonnais Laing, the broker, reiterated its buy stance on the shares. Laing is also a big fan of Lloyds Abbey, 2p firmer at 506p.

Brokers expressed disappointment after British Steel's decision not to operate a share buyback programme for which it had received shareholder approval at last year's annual meeting. Sir Brian Moffat, chairman, said the money would be better used growing the company. "If we

have a surplus of cash after that then we might consider it", he added.

His comments coincided with full-year figures showing pre-tax profits more than doubled at £1.1 billion. Sir Brian was confident that demand in Europe would begin to recover towards the end of the summer. But destocking would have an effect on demand in

the first six months of the current year, British Steel closed 4p firmer at 178p.

Goldsborough Healthcare leapt 55p to 174p as it rejected a £74.5 million bid from rival Westminster Healthcare, which is offering 54 of its own shares for every 100 Goldsborough shares. Goldsborough described the bid as unwelcome and unsolicited and not in the best interest of the group

or its shareholders. Westminster finished 4p cheaper at 314p.

A profits warning left Takare 3p easier at 141p, after briefly touching 130p. The nursing and residential home care group says the rate at which it has been able to fill its newly commissioned nursing homes has been disappointing and this will be reflected in the profits.

GKN rose 11p to 969p after the group spent £52 million mopping up the outstanding 34 per cent of GKN Transmissions España and GKN Ayra Durex, two of its Spanish subsidiaries. Last year the two companies contributed £32 million to group profits.

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MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):	
Dow Jones	5644.28 (-5.17)
S&P Composite	664.95 (-4.03)
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average	22245.36 (-44.01)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	Closed
Amsterdam:	
BOE Index	561.07 (+2.77)
Sydney:	
AD	2207.5 (+6.7)
Frankfurt:	
DAX	2546.12 (-2.71)
Singapore:	
Strait Times	2272.27 (+1.34)
Brussels:	
General	4928.19 (-11.53)
Paris:	
CAC-40	2113.04 (+1.29)
Zurich:	
SWX Index	1074
London:	
FT-100	3761.5 (+7.9)
FT-100 Mid 250	4462.2 (-2.4)
FT-100 All-Share	1001.1 (+2.9)
FT-100 Euro Stoxx 100	1681.90 (-0.28)
FT-100 All-Share	1687.21 (+0.23)
FT Non Financials	2015.0 (+3.55)
FT Financials	1114.0 (-0.28)
FT Govt Secs	92.30 (-0.16)
SEAO Volume	712.3m
USM (Datastream)	234.92 (-0.05)
US\$	1.5455 (-0.0085)
German Mark	2.3446 (+0.0039)
Exchange Index	85.8 (+0.2)
Bank of England Official Cost (40m)	1.2346
CEBR	1.2346
RPI	152.9 May (2.2%) Jan 1987-100
RPIX	152.5 May (2.8%) Jan 1987-100

RECENT ISSUES

Aberforth Sml C (100)	97	-
Bloomfield Sml C (100)	50	-
Carlisle Sml C (100)	50	-
Emtech	65	+2
Euro Telecom (115)	157	-
Fid Asian Vls (100)	93	-
Fidelity Asn Vls Vls	36	-
Fieldens (60)	115	-
Hydra-Dynema (100)	65	-
INVESTCO Eng Hl C	95	-
Independent Energy	105	-
Lands Improvement	132	-
Lumina (200)	206	-
PPL Therapeutics	469	-12
Railtrack (100)	215	-
Renaissance US Gth	95	-
SEA Multimedia (100)	95	-
Schroder Vent Int	193	-
Taiwan Inv Tr C	92	-
Templem Eng (100)	101	-
Theo Fennell (118)	118	-
Tom Hoskins	55	-
Treasury Group (174)	176	-
Whitecross (84)	95	-

RIGHTS ISSUES

Albrighton n/p (6)	4	-
Burford G n/p (122)	12	+1
Critchley n/p (810)	10	-
Enterprise n/p (153)	70	-
Firstbus n/p (140)	19	-
Green P n/p (11200)	27	-
Steeple n/p (105)	101	-

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
Lookers	154p (+12p)
Canors	150p (+10p)
Forth Ports	612p (+23p)
Carlton Comm	328p (+13p)
Berkley Gp	325p (+14p)
Sales	507p (+11p)
Next	97p (+11p)
FALLS:	
Micro Focus	815p (-35p)
Chrysalis	423p (-21p)
Card Gp	382p (-13p)
Trealt	308p (-12p)
Blenheim Gp	420p (-15p)
Scotia	720p (-25p)
Sotbeys	908p (-12p)

Closing Prices Page 33

TEMPUS

Cash for a rainy day

THERE is little point in taking a long-term view of British Steel. The rate of return over the cycle is so poor that investors would be better off with gilts. That investors have been pushing British Steel shares to heady multiples of 7 or even 8 times earnings is only further evidence that investors are being driven by the short-term ebb and flow of stock trading rather than the fundamentals.

The big issue for British Steel is what to do with the £590 million of net cash it has accumulated. Should it invest or hand the funds back to shareholders? The management would clearly like to grow the business and repeatedly hints about expansion in Asia. But, either due to demanding investment criteria or lack of flair, British Steel has yet to make its Asian move, leaving the cash to depress returns at the peak of the cycle.

Compass

COMPASS had to pay more to secure from Sodexo the outstanding one-third interest in Eures International. Sodexo, the French rival of Compass, was livid to see slipping from its grasp the opportunity to take a controlling stake in the French catering market when Compass mopped up the Eures management's shareholding in April. An 18 per cent increase to the price paid by Compass in July last year for its initial third is a reasonable premium for control and an inevitable price to remove an irritating minority.

The bigger prize for Compass is that the company now has all its European ducks in a row and the company's share price has reflected that potential since the acquisition of Eures International from Accor in July 1995.

Goldsborough

WESTMINSTER Health Care launched its bid for nursing home operator Goldsborough Healthcare with an attack on its rival's share price performance. Since the latter company was floated in March 1994, its shares have underperformed the FT-SE All-Share Index by 38 per cent.

Understandably, Westminster failed to point out that its record is little better. Over the same period, Westminster shares have underperformed the index by 24 per cent.

The record shows not only that there is little to choose between the two rivals but that these are tough times for nursing home operators. An ageing population is increasing demand for long term care but, at the moment, local authorities cannot afford to pay the bills. The message was underlined yesterday by Takare, which gave warning that take-up is slowing in its

A share buyback would clearly raise investors' cash return from British Steel but there are dangers in such a move. Liquid funds are not that much greater in real terms from the position at the peak of the last cycle and in the depth of the recession the company was using up its cash at a frightening rate. If British Steel hoards cash now, who can blame it? Expanding in the Asian economies may be a tempting carrot for a company seeking an alternative to the oversupplied and subsidised European steel market. But in an industry which has yet to experience anything like a soft landing, it could be a dangerous use of time and resources. If British Steel has surplus cash it should swallow its pride and buy back some shares. Other than that prospect there is little to recommend the stock to investors. The steel industry is a sell.

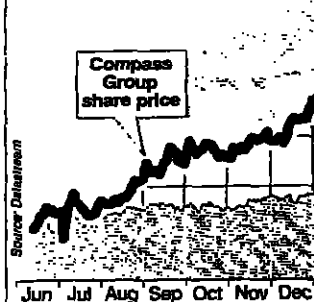
Throughout Europe

contract catering still accounts for a small portion of the catering market. Compass is the largest player in Germany where there is huge potential with only 10 per cent of catering outsourced and companies are under enormous pressure to reduce costs.

Compass hides the true profitability of its catering business

by including the cost of food purchased in turnover leaving a single digit operating margin. Stripping out the costs would probably leave the return on sales in the 20 per cent-plus range. Compass has the potential of being the Rentokil of catering sector and this year will show whether it can deliver the organic growth.

WELL CATERED FOR



Filofax

FILOFAX has pulled off an impressive recovery — and those shareholders who backed the company at 12p in 1990 have been amply rewarded. Personal organisers are no longer perceived as a pure fashion accessory but maintaining the rate of growth will become more difficult. There is a disturbing coincidence between renewed concerns about excessive salaries in the City and a surge in profits at Filofax.

There is also the more substantial concern about electronic organisers, which are gaining ground in many countries. Filofax acknowledges the issue sufficiently to dismiss the impact on its market, but the fear remains. The technological threat and the enduring battle against copycat products warrants caution: the shares may have run out steam. Take profits.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

COMMODITIES

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

DOLLAR RATES

WALL STREET

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE			
CRUDE OILS (\$/barrel FOB)			
July	1092-1094	Dec	1092-1094
Aug	1092-1094	Nov	1092-1094
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THE TIMES



CITY DIARY

Knotty problem for Linley

VISCOUNT LINLEY is finding it increasingly hard to relocate his furniture business from Cirencester to Whitby in Yorkshire. After two years searching for suitable premises, the Royal cabinet maker and Mark Whiteley, his business partner, have risked the wrath of local teachers by applying for planning permission to convert the Territorial Army's Normandy Barracks. Linley says his scheme will create 50 jobs, but local head teachers want to lease the building for use by problem children. Chris Cowell, their leader, said: "We're begging on our knees for this building not to become a factory. We desperately need it ourselves." A planning decision is due today.



Linley: facing teachers' wrath

Baring back

FRANCIS BARING was back at work for the first time in two months yesterday, starting as head of communications at SCW. He spent most of his leave beating the garden into shape and sunbathing in Spain. Although he says he hasn't read Nick Leeson's book, Mr Baring admits that he did watch his interview on *Inside Story* last week, "through gritted teeth". Describing his first day, Mr Baring said: "It was rather like going back to school. The full impact of a non-smoking building has finally hit home."

Ringing tone

WATCH out, WH Smith. Your new finance director has a short fuse. Former colleagues at Forte, where Keith Hamill was also finance director, said: "He can explode and calm down in a nanosecond." On one famous occasion, during the Granada bid for Forte, a security guard was sent into the 43-year-old finance director's High Holborn office to scramble his phone. Hamill was at lunch, and now one remembered to tell him. He spent a frustrating afternoon fighting with unintelligible clients.

Streets apart

HARD-UP Huddersfield University has just spent £50,000 altering a mistake in its first batch of new prospectuses. Only after taking delivery of 65,000 copies did it realise that the M62 mistakenly appeared as the M6. The final number had been guillotined off a map at the back of the 216-page brochures. They were scrapped and printed afresh. A university spokesman said: "We would have looked very silly if the brochure had gone out like this. We looked at the various options for correcting the error but decided none of them would have made us look very clever."

PETER BECKWITH was a sorry sight on Sunday, wandering around the presidential suite at the Grand Hotel in Brighton wearing nothing but a bath robe. The 51-year-old multimillionaire and owner of Riverside, the upmarket sports company, had just completed the 59-mile London to Brighton bike ride when the news was broken to him that the van carrying his change of clothing was nowhere to be found.

MORAG PRESTON

Labour begins to show how it means business

Philip Bassett on the first details of what a stakeholder society could mean in practice

Labour means business — such an audacious statement, at once linking the Labour Party clearly to business and encapsulating Tony Blair's intention to improve the UK's economic performance by revitalising British industry, would have been unthinkable until recently. But its inclusion in new Labour's proposals for business in Britain is a demonstration of how far Labour has changed — and how far it intends to alter the way business operates in the UK.

When Mr Blair outlined his vision of a "stakeholder society" earlier this year, Labour's critics leapt on the phrase and attempted to dismiss it as yet another new Labour vacuous soundbite. But Labour's proposals for British business, detailed for the first time in *The Times* today, put forward a range of suggestions for change that fill in what a stakeholder society would mean in practice.

Business wants to know. City leaders are flocking to conferences and seminars — the latest is next week at the Savoy Hotel in London — to glean nuggets about what a future Labour government will do. Labour's plans, contained in a document entitled provisionally *A New Industrial Policy for Britain*, but which is likely to have a much more Blairist Labour-Means-Business style of title when it is published in the summer, adopt at least some of the thesis of Will Hutton's *The State We're In*.

Throughout its 21 pages, the document emphasises the importance of markets, of competition, and of competitiveness in language not dissimilar to the Government's third White Paper on competitiveness published last week by Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister.

"Policies for improving our competitiveness will form the central plank of Labour's economic policy and provide the framework for our industrial strategy," the document says, boldly using a phrase out of favour in Whitehall since the 1970s — though the paper says that the UK's lower trend in manufacturing growth, low level of manufacturing output and continuing deficit in manufactured goods "is the price Britain has paid for the Tories' lack of industrial policy".

Labour's last full statement of its policy towards business was drawn up by Robin Cook, now Shadow Foreign Secretary, when he was the party's principal industry spokesman. But it all but disappeared, having been set for launch on the day John Smith, the former Labour leader, died. In any case, those around Mr Blair considered it too traditional an approach to be sufficient for new Labour, and have seen the need for its revision as a long-overdue task.

And revised that approach has been. Gone is interventionism. Gone are notions of picking winners — selecting



Tony Blair is giving pointers on how he aims to change the way business works

supposedly "strategically key companies or sectors to support, which characterised Labour's industrial policy in the 1970s and which led to the propping up of lame-duck businesses. Instead, the new, unpublished Labour document says: "Labour is convinced of the need to foster competitiveness by harnessing the power of the market economy. This means ensuring that our domestic markets are running smoothly, efficiently and fairly. It means promoting a higher quality and quantity of investment in our industry and in our people and in ideas. It means enabling the success of the smaller business sector. It means encouraging modern workplaces and modern corporate governance structures."

Labour cites low productivity and low investment levels as central to Britain's poor economic performance. Labour leaders attack the idea used by the competitiveness White Paper as its title: "The Conservatives' claim that

Britain is becoming the Enterprise Centre of Europe is a slogan without substance, a gross deception. The truth is that our economy has performed poorly under the Tories. The truth is that the British economy is still uncompetitive."

Instead, in pursuit of "the creation of a dynamic and vibrant economy characterised by fairness as well as by competition", Labour emphasises the need for stable macroeconomic policy to create an economy for the benefit of everyone, rather than a few. "Our central vision is of an inclusive economy which motivates each and every one of us to work for its success as stakeholders in our society."

Labour's new plans for business approach the issue of short-termism primarily through the prism of corporate governance, which it sees as "central" to competitiveness. Labour is proposing to set up an expert panel on corporate governance, with a "broad" membership, which will start from the

Cadbury, Greenbury and forthcoming Hampel reports, working out how far business has so far been prepared to accept their "modest" proposals and charging it with working out what new legislation will be needed to reform companies' behaviour.

The panel will be asked to look at the longer-term objectives of companies and their shareholders. The operations of institutional investors, including the working of the code of conduct being drawn up by the National Association of Pension Funds, will be monitored, and, if necessary, legislation will be brought in to include in the fiduciary duties of funds the obligation to use their votes at annual shareholders' meetings. Labour would also "require institutional shareholders to publish a clear code of conduct for their voting policy and make available disclosure of their voting records."

The expert panel will be asked to examine the role of non-executive directors on company boards as there may be a case for drawing NEDs from a "wider range of backgrounds", giving them three-year contracts to guarantee their independence. The document says: "Under a Labour government, a new Companies Act will, among other things, allow two-tier boards to be set up by companies on a voluntary basis. A future Labour government will also address top pay, the document discloses, by giving shareholders full legal rights to vote at AGMs on executives' pay packages before they are implemented, as well as the legal right to re-elect the remuneration sub-committee of the board which makes pay recommendations."

While legal action is repeatedly envisaged in the document, Labour leaders are aware of the charge the Conservatives will make against their policies on business, that Labour is, above all else, the party of regulation, on such issues as safety.

On small business generally, as well as declared policies on late payment and a debt moratorium for small firms in trouble, Labour is suggesting using the tax system to help smaller and medium-sized enterprises. While unspecified, the tax section of the document talks about reducing compliance costs, linking small firms' tax rates to stable size measures such as turnover, reforming the tax system to allow small businesses to remain intact more easily as they transfer between generations, and in general making the tax system more "neutral" for small firms.

On competition policy, as well as adopting the EU's Articles 85 and 86 on restrictive and anti-competitive practices, Labour is considering reforming the takeover rules to shift the burden of proof so that the bidding company has to demonstrate that the proposed merger would be in the public interest.

A new industrial policy for Britain is vital not only to reverse our industrial decline, the document declares, "not only to restore Britain's place among the industrial world leaders, but also to ensure the future economic security and prosperity of the British people." The electorate will decide whether what will soon be publicly on offer from Labour about business will be given the opportunity to achieve such goals.



JANET BUSH

There are two sides to EMU

Three immediate reasons spring to mind to justify examining the arguments in favour of a European single currency.

The first is that there is, we are told, a whole wing of the Government which believes in it, whose standard-bearer, we are given to understand, is none other than the Chancellor of the Exchequer. But, much as Kenneth Clarke is given to risking his political neck by defending the single currency, he never seems to say why he is so keen. It is quite wrong that one half of the European debate is buried because of the political expediencies of life in the Conservative Party.

The second reason for a sober look at the pro-monetary union point of view is that this may counteract the nasty streak of xenophobia that sullies the current debate. Never was the need for a fair-minded assessment clearer than at last week's Mansion House dinner. Asked why he was so deeply Euro-sceptic, a fellow guest and one of Britain's most senior financial figures, launched into a detailed critique of the standard of French toilets.

The third reason for trying to understand what our continental colleagues see in a single currency is that it may actually happen, whatever Sir James Goldsmith has up his sleeve. From these shores, it may seem surreal to suggest that this and beef is bound to dominate the European summit in Florence this week. But, behind the scenes, our continental partners are feverishly preparing for a monetary union — even as Britain blocks and vetoes.

So what is the pro-EMU argument? Actually, there is one that the single currency is necessary for the proper working of the single market. Europe's free trade zone. A level playing field can only be ensured if the cost of capital in each member country is the same. That can only happen with a centralised monetary policy, a single currency and one level of interest rates. This is far more important than whether a European company or a European tourist has the bother of different exchange rates when crossing borders.

All the other arguments

are about feasibility. The major theoretical negative of a single currency is that the European economies are just too different to converge properly. Without near-perfect convergence, giving up flexibility in monetary policy — interest rates and exchange rates — would mean that some countries would have permanently locked-in advantage and others disadvantage. Some have even suggested that such imbalances could eventually lead to war.

The pro-EMU lobby believes that such objections no longer hold water because there will be enough convergence by early 1998 when it is supposed to be decided who does and does not join the single currency. Ballooning deficits are out because these tend to push interest rates up. But, as long as deficits are moving in the right direction, the single currency will work as long as there is convergence on inflation rates and interest rates.

Crucially, those who take this tack believe that the clustering of European inflation rates at a low level is permanent, not cyclical, the result of the long-established anti-inflation bias of policy and intense global competition.

Other competitive differences between countries can be ironed out. But instead of closing gaps through devaluation in the past, now differences will be bridged through behavioural change and micro-economic policies. In other words, Europe will be forced into the structural change that everybody advocates but nobody wants to sell to their electorates.

The other major objection of the EMU-sceptics is that Europe will never grow sufficiently within the discipline of a single currency to get record unemployment down. But the pro-EMU lobby argues that policy has only been so deflationary in Europe because it has been run by the Bundesbank. Centralising monetary policy would stop the tail wagging the dog to such effect.

On balance, none of this may make sense to a Britain gripped by Euro-scepticism. But, for the sake of balance, shouldn't we engage in a two-sided debate?

Airline ties revive clamour for progress over 'open skies' issue

British Airways has forged another alliance this time with J. Sainsbury, the supermarket group, — but it is the threatened link-up with American Airlines that has competitors up in arms. Virgin Atlantic, with 13 per cent of UK-US routes, responded with a series of provocative advertisements. American carriers such as Delta and Trans World Airlines (TWA) are expected to push for concessions.

Yesterday, Singapore Airlines joined the chorus calling for open skies for all above the US and UK. The call came as the European Commission (EC) announced it was to start negotiating an "open skies" pact with the US, to secure, eventually, greater mutual access to routes and airports for both sides.

BA and American hope to win regulatory approval by the autumn, leaving enough time to rearrange timetables before the alliance "goes live" on April 1, 1997. For the alliance to proceed, the US Government will have to grant anti-trust immunity, just as it did for United Airlines and Lufthansa. The view is that an open skies agreement will have to come first.

Rivals point to the commercial implications for two carriers with 70 per cent or more of key transatlantic routes. The Lufthansa-United alliance is reported to be producing an additional 1,300 passengers a day across the Atlantic, according to Kleinwort Benson. It is too early to say whether BA-American will use their dominance to push up prices and bully travel agents, but the potential is there.

Then there is the issue of slots. BA holds 39 per cent of



Don Carty, left, of American Airlines, and Bob Ayling of BA celebrate their proposed alliance

take-off and landing slots at Heathrow, and does not envisage giving them up. Slots can be bought and sold, it says. BA adds that United-Lufthansa, through their partner British Midland, technically have access to about 23 per cent of Heathrow slots. What about them, it cries?

Open skies look less attractive if the slots cannot be had. Business travellers expect to arrive from New York or Chicago early in the morning, not at 3pm. It is thought that BA will have to give up some of its peak slots, or at least reshuffle its timetable.

Then there is the European dimension. Not all Europeans choose to fly to the US via Heathrow, in spite of its title as the world's biggest airport in terms of international passengers, handling about 54

million a year. Frankfurt handled 35 million passengers in 1994. Paris Charles de Gaulle, the third major "hub", handled 30 million passengers.

Carriers of British origin have close to 40 per cent of transatlantic flights, according to the EC. Germany has 18 per cent, and France 14 per cent. US competitors have wasted no time in pushing for concessions. Jeffrey Erickson, president and chief executive of TWA, has urged policymakers in Washington to free access to Tokyo and London.

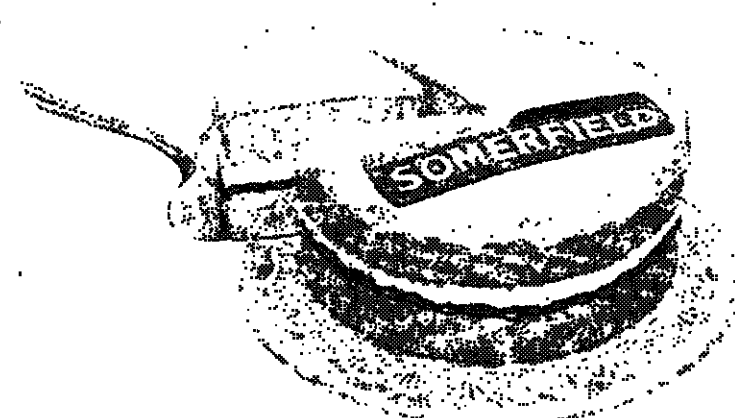
Commenting on the proposed BA-AA link-up, Mr Erickson said that regulators would have to consider whether an alliance that held 70 per cent on key routes, such as JFK to Heathrow, would encourage competition. The proposed BA-American alliance would

be more than 50 per cent larger than its next-biggest competitor, the Delta alliance, in terms of flights between Europe and the US. It would be four times larger than Northwest-KLM, and more than twice as large as United-Lufthansa. The combined JFK-Heathrow service would be larger than all of the other "twin-hub" operations of any existing alliance.

Mr Erickson urged the US Government not to grant concessions to UK carriers until the United Kingdom had shown its willingness to remove competitive barriers — by granting TWA three daily services, for instance. He said: "Level the playing field. Then, and only then, let's talk about new alliances."

JON ASHWORTH

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Modest gains in thin trading

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974	1973	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1920	1919	1918	1917	1916	1915	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901	1900	1899	1898	1897	1896	1895	1894	1893	1892	1891	1890	1889	1888	1887	1886	1885	1884	1883	1882	1881	1880	1879	1878	1877	1876	1875	1874	1873	1872	1871	1870	1869	1868	1867	1866	1865	1864	1863	1862	1861	1860	1859	1858	1857	1856	1855	1854	1853	1852	1851	1850	1849	1848	1847	1846	1845	1844	1843	1842	1841	1840	1839	1838	1837	1836	1835	1834	1833	1832	1831	1830	1829	1828	1827	1826	1825	1824	1823	1822	1821	1820	1819	1818	1817	1816	1815	1814	1813	1812	1811	1810	1809	1808	1807	1806	1805	1804	1803	1802	1801	1800	1799	1798	1797	1796	1795	1794	1793	1792	1791	1790	1789	1788	1787	1786	1785	1784	1783	1782	1781	1780	1779	1778	1777	1776	1775	1774	1773	1772	1771	1770	1769	1768	1767	1766	1765	1764	1763	1762	1761	1760	1759	1758	1757	1756	1755	1754	1753	1752	1751	1750	1749	1748	1747	1746	1745	1744	1743	1742	1741	1740	1739	1738	1737	1736	1735	1734	1733	1732	1731	1730	1729	1728	1727	1726	1725	1724	1723	1722	1721	1720	1719	1718	1717	1716	1715	1714	1713	1712	1711	1710	1709	1708	1707	1706	1705	1704	1703	1702	1701	1700	1699	1698	1697	1696	1695	1694	1693	1692	1691	1690	1689	1688	1687	1686	1685	1684	1683	1682	1681	1680	1679	1678	1677	1676	1675	1674	1673	1672	1671	1670	1669	1668	1667	1666	1665	1664	1663	1662	1661	1660	1659	1658	1657	1656	1655	1654	1653	1652	1651	1650	1649	1648	1647	1646	1645	1644	1643	1642	1641	1640	1639	1638	1637	1636	1635	1634	1633	1632	1631	1630	1629	1628	1627	1626	1625	1624	1623	1622	1621	1620	1619	1618	1617	1616	1615	1614	1613	1612	1611	1610	1609	1608	1607	1606	1605	1604	1603	1602	1601	1600	1599	1598	1597	1596	1595	1594	1593	1592	1591	1590	1589	1588	1587	1586	1585	1584	1583	1582	1581	1580	1579	1578	1577	1576	1575	1574	1573	1572	1571	1570	1569	1568	1567	1566	1565	1564	1563	1562	1561	1560	1559	1558	1557	1556	1555	1554	1553	1552	1551	1550	1549	1548	1547	1546	1545	1544	1543	1542	1541	1540	1539	1538	1537	1536	1535	1534	1533	1532	1531	1530	1529	1528	1527	1526	1525	1524	1523	1522	1521	1520	1519	1518	1517	1516	1515	1514	1513	1512	1511	1510	1509	1508	1507	1506	1505	1504	1503	1502	1501	1500	1499	1498	1497	1496	1495	1494	1493	1492	1491	1490	1489	1488	1487	1486	1485	1484	1483	1482	1481	1480	1479	1478	1477	1476	1475	1474	1473	1472	1471	1470	1469	1468	1467	1466	1465	1464	1463	1462	1461	1460	1459	1458	1457	1456	1455	1454	1453	1452	1451	1450	1449	1448	1447	1446	1445	1444	1443	1442	1441	1440	1439	1438	1437	1436	1435	1434	1433	1432	1431	1430	1429	1428	1427	1426	1425	1424	1423	1422	1421	1420	1419	1418	1417	1416	1415	1414	1413	1412	1411	1410	1409	1408	1407	1406	1405	1404	1403	1402	1401	1400	1399	1398	1397	1396	1395	1394	1393	1392	1391	1390	1389	1388	1387	1386	1385	1384	1383	1382	1381	1380	1379	1378	1377	1376	1375	1374	1373	1372	1371	1370	1369	1368	1367	1366	1365	1364	1363	1362	1361	1360	1359	1358	1357	1356	1355	1354	1353	1352	1351	1350	1349	1348	1347	1346	1345	1344	1343	1342	1341	1340	1339	1338	1337	1336	1335	1334	1333	1332	1331	1330	1329	1328	1327	1326	1325	1324	1323	1322	1321	1320	1319	1318	1317	1316	1315	1314	1313	1312	1311	1310	1309	1308	1307	1306	1305	1304	1303	1302	1301	1300	1299	1298	1297	1296	1295	1294	1293	1292	1291	1290	1289	1288	1287	1286	1285	1284	1283	1282	1281	1280	1279	1278	1277	1276	1275	1274	1273	1272	1271	1270	1269	1268	1267	1266	1265	1264	1263	1262	1261	1260	1259	1258	1257	1256	1255	1254	1253	1252	1251	1250	1249	1248	1247	1246	1245	1244	1243	1242	1241	1240	1239	1238	1237	1236	1235	1234	1233	1232	1231	1230	1229	1228	1227	1226	1225	1224	1223	1222	1221	1220	1219	1218	1217	1216	1215	1214	1213	1212	1211	1210	1209	1208	1207	1206	1205	1204	1203	1202	1201	1200	1199	1198	1197	1196	1195	1194	1193	1192	1191	1190	1189	1188	1187	1186	1185	1184	1183	1182	1181	1180	1179	1178	1177	1176	1175	1174	1173	1172	1171	1170	1169	1168	1167	1166	1165	1164	1163	1162	1161	1160	1159	1158	1157	1156	1155	1154	1153	1152	1151	1150	1149	1148	1147	1146	1145	1144	1143	1142	1141	1140	1139	1138	1137	1136	1135	1134	1133	1132	1131	1130	1129	1128	1127	1126	1125	1124	1123	1122	1121	1120	1119	1118	1117	1116	1115	1114	1113	1112	1111	1110	1109	1108	1107	1106	1105	1104	1103	1102	1101	1100	1099	1098	1097	1096	1095	1094	1093	1092	1091	1090	1089	1088	1087	1086	1085	1084	1083	1082	1081	1080	1079	1078	1077	1076	1075	1074	1073	1072	1071	1070	1069	1068	1067	1066	1065	1064	1063	1062	1061	1060	1059	1058	1057	1056	1055	1054	1053	1052	1051	1050	1049	1048	1047	1046	1045	1044	1043	1042	1041	1040	1039	1038	1037	1036	1035	1034	1033	1032	1031	1030	1029	1028	1027	1026	1025	1024	1023	1022	1021	1020	1019	1018	1017	1016	1015	1014	1013	1012	1011	1010	1009	1008	1007	1006	1005	1004	1003	1002	1001	1000	999	998	997	996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■ VISUAL ART 1

London and Londoners are magnificently evoked in the Tate's powerful Leon Kossoff show



■ VISUAL ART 2

A stunning display of American watercolours comes to Britain for the first time

THE TIMES
ARTS

■ VISUAL ART 3

From rice to neon and rubber: Vong Phaophanit continues to intrigue with odd materials



■ TOMORROW

Sounding off: readers offer a wide range of opinion in *The Times's* music debate

GALLERIES: Richard Cork on the Tate's great Kossoff retrospective; plus Edinburgh delights and other shows

Reporter of the times of London

Evacuated to Norfolk during the Second World War, the adolescent Leon Kossoff soon found himself painting and drawing from photographs of Blitz-shattered London. They showed the city burning round St Paul's Cathedral, a ready-made symbol of Britain's resistance to Fascism. However, reassured Kossoff may have been by the building's miraculous survival, he also knew that the East End was being devastated. The whole area where he had spent his childhood would never be the same again.

None of the images Kossoff produced during the war is included in his powerful Tate exhibition, the first retrospective he has ever been given. But the destruction inflicted on the metropolis at that harrowing period surely affected the character of the earliest paintings on view. Although he executed them more than 40 years ago, they still have a shocking, visceral immediacy. London, in these churned and brooding pictures, is a city pitted by bomb craters. Staring down into them, Kossoff discovered builders at work. Their dotted bodies seem to be mired by the earth they gouge. The thick, slithering paint takes on the identity of mud.

In seeking to account for the overwhelming intensity of these pictures, we should not exaggerate the impact of the war on Kossoff's nervous system. He had grown up, after all, with parents who were themselves no strangers to instability. As Russian Jews threatened by pogroms in Ukraine, they had fled to England around 1906. And although Kossoff's father successfully established a bakery business, the memories of that early persecution must never have left him. In an agitated painting called *Father Seated in an Armchair*, the sheer weight of Kossoff's heaped pigment combines with the slashing brushstrokes to convey a sense of almost unbearable strain in the old man's hunched body. So perhaps it is more accurate to say that the war reawakened, in this refugee family, fears they would have preferred to remain dormant.

Military service took Kossoff abroad for three years after the war, but the city he came back to in 1948 still looked grievously wounded. A prevailing mood of injury gives the first rooms of the Tate show their extraordinary potency. Kossoff's mark-making is already astonishingly uninhibited, and he brooks no compromise in giving vent to



A wholehearted response to communal delight: Leon Kossoff's painting *Children's Swimming Pool 11 o'clock Saturday Morning August (1969)*

his vision of a metropolis as beleaguered as the people who inhabit it.

To paint in such an impassioned way, especially in England, required a great deal of courage. Kossoff felt constrained by the emphasis on control in St Martin's School of Art, where he studied for several years. But the stimulus to develop a less fettered approach was provided by David Bomberg, whose evening classes at the Borough Polytechnic in south London offered a challenging antidote to conventional teaching. Feeling that "coming to Bomberg's classes was like coming home", Kossoff learnt how to unleash his own turbulent imagination in the cityscapes and portraits of the 1950s.

Darkness prevails at first. It is hard to make out recognisable forms in *Railway Bridge, Mornington Crescent*, although light does fall across one part of the scene like a tentative promise of renewal. London seems embroiled in a

formidable struggle to revivify itself after the negation of war, and Kossoff was in no mood to minimise the difficulties involved. The people he paints are likewise encumbered. *Seated Woman No 2* scarcely seems capable of emerging from the encrusted wall of pigment which gives her body such sculptural solidity. Elsewhere, though, the figures discernible through the maelstrom of paint seem to fight against their malaise. *Man in a Wheelchair* tries to surge forward, eyes burning with urgent conviction. This time the headlong brushstrokes fortify him, and in *Portrait of Philip No 1* they almost propel the bespectacled man from his seat.

Dynamism grows as the 1960s advance. In his cityscapes Kossoff now shifts his gaze upwards, away from the embedded gloom of building sites and towards the railway tracks at Willesden Junction. Moving his studio to north-west London coincided with a

feeling of release. The lines race towards a horizon punctuated by a lurching tower-block. It stands out against the impenetrable clouds like an isolated act of defiance, and the surge of the paint reinforces the quickening sense of a capital on the move, serviced by transport providing ever-swifter means of escape.

Only at the beginning of the 1970s does he fully emerge from the darkness of the post-war period. Fascinated by a children's pool in the newly built Willesden Sports Centre, where he taught his son to swim, Kossoff began defining a quite new kind of figure. Unlike the people in his earlier portraits, in thrall to sleep or bedridden by illness, the bodies in the pool explode with vitality, leaping from the sides and navigating pathways through the press of swimmers in the water.

Kossoff's palette becomes lighter, his pigment thinner, and his touch more deft. Stabbing with the brush, he

gives all these marvellous pictures a staccato quality. We can almost hear the shrieks of the children as they crash against each other in the thronged and echoing pool. Their movements are as uninhibited as Kossoff's handling, and he responds wholeheartedly to the communal delight.

Outside the exuberance of the Sports Centre, Kossoff continued to view his chosen world with disquiet. In the impressive *Nude on a Red Bed*, the pale and apprehensive woman seems to shiver with loneliness as skeins of flicked white paint skitter and wriggle across the mattress.

His father's hands, clasped in a manner strongly reminiscent of Cézanne's *Old Woman with a Rosary*, writhe and claw at one another on his lap. But Kossoff's mark-making grows spectacularly agitated as he paints the demolition of the *Old House at Dalston Junction*, a favourite subject seen from his studio window. His unease may well be bound up with the disappearance of a cherished landmark.

Although Kossoff roots his art in tireless drawing on the spot, memory also plays a vital part in his work. It is no accident that his finest recent series of paintings concentrates on a building first seen by the young Kossoff when he lived in nearby Brick Lane. Hawksmoor's tour de force of sinewy Baroque stone, the indomitable Christ Church in Spitalfields, still soars triumphantly above its surroundings, but Kossoff fears that it might soon be dwarfed by redevelopment, and the urgency of his devotion to the building must partly be powered by a desire to paint Christ Church before it is too late.

In some of the earliest images, Hawksmoor's masterpiece seems about to collapse: it buckles and sways, threatening to fall on the pedestrians hurrying anxiously past. In more recent paintings, though, stability is reasserted. Now honey-coloured on a summer afternoon, the church rears so high above the pavement that Kossoff might be recalling how awesome it appeared to him as a child. Remote memories and fresh observation fuse here, in a painting that testifies above all to the tenacity of an artist's lifelong obsession with the city he loves.

● Leon Kossoff at the Tate Gallery, Millbank, SW1 (071-887 8000) until Sep 1

AROUND THE GALLERIES

THE Irish artist Alice Maher has always combined paintings with objects. A hut covered in rose thorns sits on a shelf opposite some grey paintings. A jacket of rose leaves held together by pins hangs on the wall. The images in each picture tread a precarious path between caricature and classical delicacy. The effect is strangely mixed, awkwardly delicate.

Todd Gallery, 1-5 Needham Road, London W11 (071-792 1404) until June 29

□ Vong Phaophanit's range of materials extends now to strips of fluorescent red and blue neon which run down the side of the wall and along the floor. Near by, a line of crowns turned upside down have electric current flickering through them. In the back gallery, industrial rubber slips very slowly down through the confining metal support of an industrial shelf unit and onto the floor. The shift away from his earlier use of materials such as rice marks a further step in this artist's creation of his own language.

Stephen Friedman, 25-28 Old Burlington Street, London W1 (071-494 1434) until July 27

□ Kirsty Bell has organised an exhibition in vacant shops in Exmouth market. At No 43 Darren Almond presents the recorded sound of a digital clock. At No 69, Liza May Post's video, of a person lying on the ground being ignored by passers-by, plays continuously behind bolted security bars. Sounds of heartbeats or traffic aid installations by Christina Mackie (No 27) and Reinhard Mucha (No 28), while a four-minute film at No 49 of a particularly lush corner of London hinterland by Matthew Crawley stretches the patience and imagination. 27, 28, 43, 49, 53, 56, 69 Exmouth Market, London EC1 (071-267 9190) until June 29

SACHA CRADDOCK

A fine American water world

The English may have the beating of the Scots at football, but the Scots know a thing or two when it comes to mounting exhibitions. Watercolours have long been considered particularly English, so it is ironic that a stunning show of American works should be seen for the first time in Europe at the National Gallery of Scotland.

This is a sparkling selection, from the trail-blazing landscapes of the Wyoming West by Thomas Moran and Samuel Coleman in the 1870s to the more familiar totemesque lighthouses and dingy clapboard houses of Edward Hopper from the 1920s. In between lie the atmospheric impressionism of Maurice Prendergast and the tough abstraction of Georgia O'Keeffe. Towering above all, though, are the monumental Winslow Homers and the light-drenched John Singer Sargents.

They are the stars here and account for the bulk of works on show. I was unprepared for the sheer physical presence of the Homers, never having seen the originals before. Here lies the point in looking, if you can, at the reality rather than reproductions.

Stand up close and you are confronted by what seems like a wet mess of splodges and



Winslow Homer's *The Blue Boat*: still vividly coloured

scrapings-out. Stand back and you see a picture. In print you see only the latter no matter how closely you peer, because you cannot see a worked-upon surface. If, like me, you are an enthusiastic amateur desperate to know how the blighter did it, this is the only way to find out.

Take *The Blue Boat*, painted over a hundred years ago but today just as vividly coloured, and as fresh as, well, paint. Two men — one old, one young — pit themselves against the Adirondack wilderness, a favourite Homer theme. A reproduction will show you a number of white areas in the painting. But only the original reveals which are the result of leaving the paper free of pigment, which of scraping the painted surface away with a sharp blade.

To depict a ripple from the canoe, Homer has loaded a large brush with opaque Prussian blue and dragged it in a line which breaks up at the end on the rough texture of the

paper. He has then blotted or "lifted" the wet pigment at the start to create the dark, intense reflection of the bow. It is the single most exhilarating moment of the whole show. Not surprising, then, that Homer should write on the painting: "This will do the business."

Homer travelled widely in his quest to perfect a watercolour technique. It was an odyssey which brought him from the American East Coast to our own East Coast, at Cullercoats for two years. Returning to America he divided his time between Maine, the Adirondacks and the Caribbean — hence the developing vibrancy of his colours.

A watercolour is a series of controlled accidents. You can never determine exactly what is going to happen. The best results are generally triumphs of serendipity over intention. Sargent described the process as "making the best of an emergency" and he could make do better than most. His watercolours, never intended

for exhibition or sale, allowed him to abandon the formality of his society portraits, and by making his own rules to reveal a striking modernity.

The most banal subjects could generate the most magnificent effects. What could be more prosaic than a washing-line? But in his hands subject and technique are one and the same. After all, the translucency of watercolour is light itself, with the white of the paper providing the source. Long before Marshall McLuhan, Sargent knew that the medium is the message.

It may all seem effortlessly carefree, but don't be fooled. The swift dabs which make up the reflections of *Under the Rialto* are deliberate every one: it just takes genius to achieve it. Opportunities to view originals are limited. None hangs permanently in galleries because colours fade when exposed to light. So seize this moment to take free lessons from American masters, often themselves self-taught. They could inspire you to pick up a brush and paintbox, to throw off inhibition and break the rules of our own hidebound tradition. If you don't paint, they will certainly explain how and why others do. And if you miss it in Edinburgh, the show then travels to Amsterdam. Holland can play football, too.

PETER BROOKES

● *Awash in Colour: Great American Watercolours from the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston at the National Gallery of Scotland, Edinburgh until July 14; then at the Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam, Aug 10-Sept 27*
● Peter Brookes cartoon, page 18

Leon Kossoff

The Tate Gallery presents a major exhibition of paintings by one of Britain's most distinctive post-war artists.

"... thrilling and majestic pictures that are also completely of our time ... a triumph. Anyone who cares about the art of painting should see it"

Martin Gayford
Daily Telegraph

"This is a wonderful show"

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Leon Kossoff *Christ Church, Summer Afternoon 1994*

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LAW

● IRISH AYES FOR JUDGES 39

● LAW REPORT 23

Frances Gibb looks at the battle looming for leadership of the legal profession

High society hopefuls

Tomorrow ballot papers land on the desks of 68,000 solicitors in England and Wales. The hustings are now open for what promises to be a bitter election battle for leadership of the profession.

Martin Mears, who took the Law Society by storm last year in its first contested elections for 40 years, is being challenged for the presidency by two other council members: Tony Girling and Anthony Bogan. The contest takes place after the most turbulent 12 months in the society's history.

Mr Mears was swept to power on a tide of disenchantment with the society among solicitors at large. In doing so, he destroyed what he called the "Buggins' turn" system — the tradition by which the society council — not the profession — chose its deputy vice-president, and he progressed without challenge to the presidency.

But Mr Mears had done more: his style, coupled with outspoken attacks on "the discrimination industry", led to unprecedented public mud-slinging and hostilities. He has been described as the "forces of darkness" and in turn has castigated opponents as defeatist, complacent and cut off from the real concerns of high street practitioners.

At stake is not just the different personalities and style of leadership at a crucial time for the profession (reforms loom on legal aid, civil justice and divorce). The issue is the role of the society as the solicitors' professional body. How far should it seek to protect solicitors from a harsher, more competitive marketplace — rather than looking to protect the public? Or are the two potentially conflicting roles — trade union and regulator in the public interest — no longer compatible?

Right: a close look at the candidates



Mears: respected as a street fighter

MARTIN MEARS

BACKGROUND: Aged 56, senior partner of Mears Hobbs & Durrant in Great Yarmouth, Norfolk. General practitioner (advocacy, employment, family, landlord and tenant, local government). Running with Robert Sayer (44, now deputy vice-president; with four-partner firm, Sayer Moore, Acton, west London) and Robert Keating (53, of Smith & Graham, seven partners, in Hartlepool). Elected on a campaign to cut bureaucracy and to tackle cut-price conveyancers and over-supply of entrants to profession. Argues that reformist mission has been cramped by obstructionism; others say his ideas have proved unworkable.

PROS: Reforming iconoclastic zeal achieved unrivalled shake-up at society and culture change: even his challengers are "born-again" reformers. Will fight hard for the "small" solicitor. With "enemies" on society staff gone, a more constructive atmosphere may prevail.

CONS: Confrontational style and inflammatory language, particularly on political correctness, has brought a bad (he says "biased") press and created enemies, not least among women. Lacks negotiating skills with Government. A street fighter, not a conciliator.



Girling: took on the Government

TONY GIRLING

BACKGROUND: Aged 52. Deputy vice-president. Chairman and managing partner of Girling's, 24-partner firm in Canterbury, Kent. Specialises in advocacy, family law and licensing. Running with Philip Sycamore, 45, a specialist in medical and professional negligence (Lonsdale, Blackpool) and Michael Mathews, 54, partner with Clifford Chance. Long-standing, experienced council member representing "the high street". Worked on more than 30 society committees. Pushed the society to take the Government to court on legal aid fees in 1995. A driving force behind its conveyancing standards scheme (TransAction) and "Will Power" campaign to promote will-making.

PROS: Safe, experienced pair of hands. Persuasive manner is bringing wide support among council and firms: campaigning on "one profession" ticket, based on "honest" message that there are no quick fixes: solicitors must respond to changing world but need more practical help.

CONS: Old guard. It was discontent with that regime which prompted "revolution" last year; what did he do, say Mr Mears and Mr Sayer, when change was needed? In his 18 years on the council, society staff grew to 700, with £44 million budget.



Bogan: out-reforming the reformers

ANTHONY BOGAN

BACKGROUND: Aged 38. Elected to the Law Society council for Surrey in 1995, knocking out long-standing member Paul Marsh. Partner with three-partner firm, Saunders Palmer Ure, Hounslow — conveyancing, financial services, wills and probate. A Mears-Sayer reformer who has broken away on the single issue of splitting the society's trade union and regulatory functions. In April 1996, joined with John Edge, who has led the campaign against cut-price conveyancing, to form the Solicitors' Association, the body he favours taking on the Law Society's trade union role. Also member of British Legal Association executive committee.

PROS: One of the youngest council members. Prepared to out-reform the original reformers with plans to split the society; may appeal to the hard-pressed high street practitioners wanting a dedicated trade union.

CONS: Little experience; may be too "wild" for the majority. Can be accused of "Flat Earthism" and failing to accept that the world has changed for solicitors. Backed by Solicitors' Association. Mears supporters may see him as a traitor who could split their vote.

The trial that made authors of them all

Whatever damage it has done to the reputation of the American criminal justice system, the trial and acquittal of O.J. Simpson on charges of murdering his former wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend, Ronald Goldman, have done more for the publishing industry than any previous proceedings in legal history.

Mr Simpson himself was first to the printers in 1995 with his bestseller, *I Want to Tell You*. After a series of less than compelling books from minor witnesses and discharged jurors (one of whom also posed for *Playboy* magazine), it is now the turn of the lawyers to produce their accounts of last year's "trial of the century".

Near the end of the case, Christopher Darden, a member of the prosecution team, "noticed that one of the defence lawyers appeared to be at work on a book already, typing on a laptop computer in court". In his own memoir, *In Contempt* (written with Jess Walter, HarperCollins, £16.99), Mr Darden says he "did not want to profit that way from the deaths" of the victims. But he was persuaded that he had "a chance to do something worthwhile, to help people to see what happened here". He also received an advance of \$1.3 million.

Mr Darden's book has been at, or near, the top of *The New York Times* bestseller list for several weeks. It is, like the prosecution case it describes, a bitter and emotional statement, lacking structure and judgment, preferring assertion to rational argument and dismissive of any contrary view as ignorant or malicious. Mr Darden is a prosecutor so determined to convict in the court of public opinion that he comes close to achieving the near-impossible task of making the reader feel sorry for Mr Simpson, or "Asshole", as Mr Darden prefers to call the defendant.

The trial was undoubtedly a strain for Mr Darden. As a black prosecutor, he "received death threats and racist letters from blacks and whites alike" and was repeatedly taunted by Johnnie L. Cochran Jr, the lead defence attorney. He made a serious error of judgment in asking Mr Simpson to try on the glove found at the murder scene, so enabling Mr Cochran to tell the jury in his final speech that "if it doesn't fit, you must acquit". While refusing to answer "locker-room" questions about his relationship with Marcia Clark, the lead prosecutor, Mr Darden confides that they were "two passionate people thrown together in a trial that left us exhausted and lonely" and that he will "always remember the times we made each other feel less alone".

However, none of this can justify a prosecutor (even one who says he has now

retired from legal practice) blaming defence counsel for "knocking our legal system off course" by securing an acquittal. The right to jury trial, and the obligations on the prosecution to prove its case, apply even in the trial of a defendant whom Mr Darden believes has "gotten away with" murder.

Alan M. Dershowitz was retained by Mr Simpson to prepare grounds for a possible appeal in the event of a conviction. In *Reasonable Doubts* (Simon & Schuster, £12.99), Mr Dershowitz focuses on the standard and burden of proof ignored by Mr Darden. Mr Dershowitz acknowledges that many people concluded that the defendant was probably guilty of the appalling crimes described in court. He then provides a persuasive and entertaining analysis of why the misconduct of the police, the incompetence of the state's forensic experts and the inadequate presentation by the prosecution lawyers justified the conclusion of the jury that there was a reasonable doubt that entitled Mr Simpson to a verdict of not guilty.

Robert L. Shapiro was Mr Simpson's lead defence attorney until he was relegated to the sidelines by Mr Cochran during the trial. Mr Shapiro's book, *The Search for Justice* (written with Larkin Warren, Warner Books, \$24.95), is a sensitive and informative account of the trial, written by an effective lawyer who was responsible for much of the preparation which secured victory.

Mr Shapiro confirms what was obvious during the proceedings: that he was embarrassed and annoyed by the abrasive and unhelpful "in your face" style of advocacy of

many of his colleagues on both sides of the court. He makes plain his distaste for the crude rhetoric of Mr Cochran, the unprofessional conduct of another member of the defence team, F. Lee Bailey, and the improper zeal with which Ms Clark sought to secure a conviction. He is especially critical — rightly so — of Ms Clark's efforts to conceal from the jury the bad character of one of her witnesses, the policeman Mark Fuhrman, and her extraordinary closing speech in which she told the jury: "I wouldn't bring this case before you if I didn't believe that it was a good case."

Eagerly awaited are forthcoming books by Ms Clark and Mr Cochran, for which they have received big advances. F. Lee Bailey has had other matters on his mind, having spent most of March and April in jail in Florida after an unfortunate misunderstanding with federal authorities about the ownership of several million dollars of assets which he derived from a drug-trafficking client.

● The author is a practising barrister and a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.



COUNSEL

DAVID PANNICK QC

Election ad muddies the waters

THE mud-slinging of the Law Society election campaign has started. Martin Mears, the society's president, and his team launched their campaign with a *Law Society Gazette* advertisement last week.

The Campaign for New Leadership, a group of solicitors who support the challenger Tony Girling, said its style and content were "regrettable". The advertisement is headed "No Turning Back", and seeks to remind the profession what has happened over the 16 years that Mr Girling was a council member. It aims to discredit him as a member of the old guard.

The Girling supporters issued a riposte: "No turning back — indeed! Mears and Sayer are all about turning back. Back to the past, with a Flat Earth Law Society."

● Any solicitors with urgent ethical dilemmas last Thursday were on their own. The Law Society's entire Ethics Department was away on an ethics course.

Scott-free

SIR Richard Scott, the ever-diplomatic Vice-Chancellor, decided not to speak about the reform of civil justice after all when he visited the London School of Economics last week to give a lecture organised by the LSE Lawyers Group.

The billed title was *Developments in the Administration of Civil Justice*. But with the unveiling of Lord Woolf's inquiry into civil justice so near at hand, Sir Richard thought it

OUTS

inappropriate to pre-empt the report. He neatly sidestepped the possibility of trading on the toes of the new Master of the Rolls by expounding on another topic close to his heart, the arms-to-Iraq inquiry and the failure of ministers to be adequately accountable to Parliament through their answers.

New judge

ALAN MOSES, QC — prosecuting counsel in the Matrix Churchill trial — has been made a High Court judge.

Mr Moses came in for a grilling in the Scott inquiry, but was exonerated when it became clear that he was

never informed by officials about intelligence reports showing that Matrix Churchill was involved in exporting arms to Iraq. Had he known, he said, he would have dropped the prosecution.

Riding on

THE bloodstock department at the Cambridge firm Taylor Vintners' Newmarket office has noted a welcome upturn in trade. The firm reports that Jeremy Richardson, the partner who heads the department, negotiated a contract for the export of one of the country's leading stallions for "a seven-figure sum".

The racing-related property



Jeremy Levison of Collyer-Bristow at the firm's show

Seaside comes to the capital

THE SEASIDE is coming to the world of law in the form of an exhibition of works from the artists' colony in St Ives. The law firm Collyer-Bristow is staging the exhibition at its office gallery in Bedford Row, WC2. Tamar Arnon, the curator, says: "It is a mixture of abstract and figurative paintings by 16 artists, all of whom have studios by the sea." Artists include Sandra Blow, who has just sold a major work to the Tate, and Paul Ziemacki, runner-up in the recent National Westminster Painting Prize. The exhibition runs from July 3 until September 19.

market is also healthy, with the firm handling the sales of a number of training yards.

Mr Richardson, however, adds a note of caution to an otherwise upbeat assessment of the bloodstock industry which appears in the firm's latest newsletter. Horses in training, he points out, are competing for less prize money this year.

Statute survey

THE Law Commission and the Law Commission of Scotland are on the verge of completing a mammoth task. For the past 20 years, the commissions have been compiling a comprehensive list of all of the 26,500 or so local Acts that have been passed since 1797.

Next month they will finally unveil their chronological table of local legislation from 1797 to 1994. The table will identify statutes still in force and trace how they have been amended, as well as detailing statutes that have been repealed.

The commissions hope the table will put an end to uncertainty about the status of local legislation.

Out of order

CHARLES DOUGHTY, a leading divorce lawyer at the London firm Withers, recounts his favourite anecdote in the latest issue of *In Brief*. He took a client to get an undefended divorce in the days when a personal hearing was still necessary.

The judge asked whether Mr Doughty was the co-respondent and the embarrassed client replied: "No way. He is a respectable solicitor and nobody does it with a solicitor!"

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LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

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CHAMBERS

The New Job

Starting a new job is always stressful, sometimes to the point of being unbearable. But how should you react? If it's obvious beyond any doubt that you have made a mistake, then things are unlikely to improve, the best advice may be to get out quick. The more buoyant the job-market the more sensible this reaction will be. Your 'mistake' will scarcely figure in your career history. It will cause you no lasting damage.

For most candidates, however, the situation is not so straightforward. The new job is making them unhappy or agitated, but there are good reasons to think it will improve. Settling in will inevitably take time. The worst course to take is impulsively to look for something else. In our experience of advising candidates, the second month tends to be the worst. During the first month, the positive aspects of a new job tend to be most noticeable and your new colleagues all seem pleasant. By the second month, the fact that you have your own individual style of working, a style which is probably different from your predecessor's, may draw criticism. Equally, you have begun to notice some of the negative aspects of your new workplace. By the third month, mutual adjustments are made in your and others' perceptions, and you begin to master the novelties of the position.

Unless you're sure you have made a ridiculous mistake, it is wise to wait for three months or so before deciding to move on. If you allow yourself to think of moving at an earlier stage, it will be impossible to give the sort of commitment needed to make a success of the new position.

Michael Chambers

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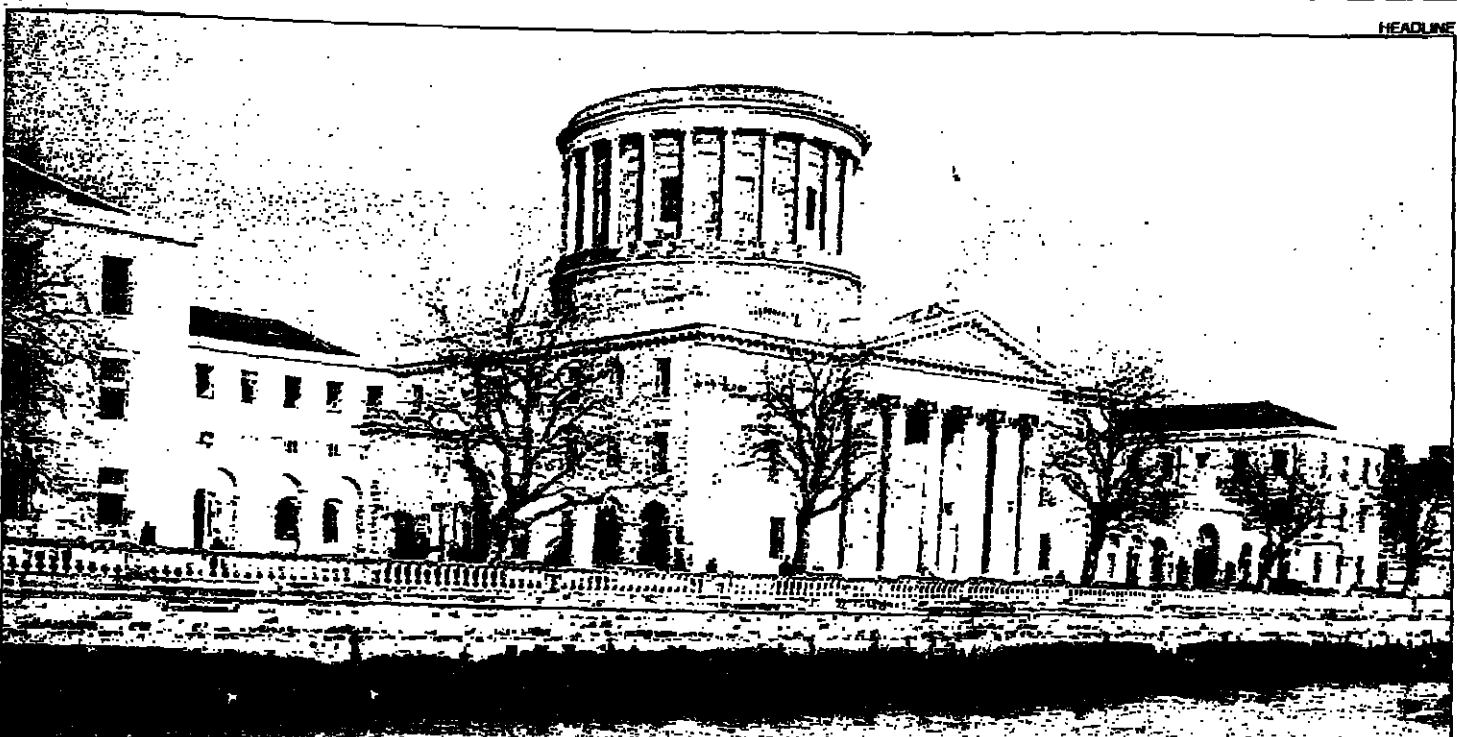
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The Four Courts in Dublin: has the new Irish system of appointing judges anything to teach lawyers in England and Wales?

Ireland's way with judges

The Irish Government recently made half a dozen new judicial appointments. These are the first to have been made since the establishment last year of the Judicial Appointments Advisory Board.

The appointments were disappointingly predictable. Three High Court judges were promoted to the Supreme Court which, with a membership of eight, will be able to sit in two divisions. The Supreme Court fulfils the roles of both the Court of Appeal and the House of Lords. These judges were replaced by an experienced Circuit Court judge (the equivalent of County Court) and two top silks.

In the wake of independence the new Irish state continued with a system memorably described by Tony Blair as the "puff of smoke" method of creating judges. It is one that Labour is pledged to reform. Though intermittently controversial, the system suited all parties. It was only when Albert Reynolds, the former Taoiseach, clashed with his coalition partner Dick Spring, the Labour leader, in 1994 over Mr Reynolds's determination to give his Attorney-General the presidency of the High Court that reform was seriously suggested.

Shortly before that Government was brought down over the botched extradition of a paedophile priest, Mr Reynolds — in what was seen as a face-saving gesture to Mr

MPs are to report soon on how the system for appointing judges should be reformed. Already, Labour is pledged to bring in a Judicial Appointments Commission in England and Wales.
KIERAN CONWAY explains how similar reforms are working in the Republic of Ireland

Spring — promised an independent board to take the politics out of judicial appointments. A Bill to do this was produced in record time.

What the Bill proposed, however, was only an advisory board. Though this was said to be needed to preserve the constitutional position that judges are appointed by the Government, the Bill also excluded the Chief Justice and the presidents of the High Court, Circuit Court and District Court from its scope. This was necessary, the Government said, "to ensure continuity... in the running and operation of various courts".

The board is also required to submit the names of all those it has considered, and to recommend no fewer than seven of these. And though the Government "shall firstly consider" the seven recommended, it is in no way bound by the board's submission.

All the anecdotal and some documentary material shows that the previous system of appointment progressed informally, with senior counsel (the successors to Queen's Counsel) being sounded out by the Attorney-General of the day, or perhaps themselves sounding out

the attorney about their prospects. There was also discreet input from the judiciary. The informal "negotiating" process would include such matters as the level of appointment on offer, and it is known that some seniors declined immediate offers, feeling it was "too early" for them to commence a judicial career with its consequent sharp drop in income.

As originally proposed, prospective judges were required to apply in writing when a vacancy occurred. Scrupulousness was expressed about the chances of senior barristers being prepared to put their names forward on the ground that should they be unsuccessful it could become known, leaving them open to possible ridicule.

This reservation was dealt with by allowing the board to "invite persons" it considers suitable to submit their names — in short to headhunt — and it may be that little of substance has changed in the sort of minutiae that preceded appointment in the past.

There have been no leaks from the new board, which is dominated by the judiciary in the shape of the

Chief Justice, who chairs it, and the presidents of the other three courts. These, together with the Attorney-General, are ex-officio members. The balance consists of one representative each from the Law Society and Bar Council and three chosen by the Government, which has nominated a Labour Court member, a prominent banker, and the chairwoman of a victim-support group.

The composition of the board has worried radical lawyers, who fear that the judiciary, with help from the rest of the legal establishment, will replicate itself, and that there will be no chance of preferment for any lawyer who bucks the system.

This make-up has increased the power of an already activist judiciary. The superior courts, as interpreters of a written Constitution, have regularly thrown government plans into disarray, and the wide scope of judicial review is simply not an issue in Ireland.

New reform proposals, published last month, envisage the establishing of a courts service in the Republic similar to that in England. However, its chief executive, as proposed, would be answerable not to the Government but to a 15-person board on which eight judges would sit with representatives of the legal profession and court staff.

The Government quickly committed itself to implementing the reforms.

Edward Fennell on new codes of practice for the Disability Act

Just a paradise for the lawyers?

The Government has just published new voluntary codes of practice for the Disability Discrimination Act as a first step towards bringing disabled people into line with those who suffer racial or sexual discrimination. The Act itself, the most radical legislation on disability in Europe, comes into force later this year. It provides a new definition of disability and covers many people not now registered as disabled. But many employees are unaware of the new laws; and lawyers are divided about whether the Act has teeth.

There is the usual split between the big commercial firms that tend to work for employers and the smaller practices that usually act for plaintiffs (or, as they will be called in these cases, applicants).

Elaine Aarons, of the national law firm, Eversheds, says that though many employers are adopting a head-in-the-sand attitude to the Act, she has been in demand to make presentations to employer groups about the preparations Eversheds has been making.

Susan Mayne, a partner with the City law firm Cameron Markby Hewitt, confirms that employers should be taking steps now to bring their practices into line with the demands of the Act. She says: "They should ensure that job advertisements, interview and selection processes are non-discriminatory. In the long term they should ensure that the design of their premises conforms to the needs of disabled employees."

Her colleague, Richard Nicolle, adds that because up to a fifth of the workforce can be regarded as disabled, employers cannot be complacent about the implications of the Act. He says: "I would expect to see the same number of cases coming forward as in the racial and sexual discrimination fields."

But Sara Leslie of the London office of Irwin Mitchell is not so sure. With its track record of working for MPs and trade unions, Irwin Mitchell would be a natural candidate for large numbers of applicants' cases. However, unlike the race and sex fields, there are limited (or indeed, no) resources to



Where now for disabled people in the employment field?

pay for the pursuit of disability cases. Moreover, the new National Disability Council will not have the same powers, for example, as the Equal Opportunities Commission. "As a result," says Ms Leslie, "I don't know who is going to pay for these cases. There will be a certain amount of pro bono work and some cases will be undertaken on a contingency fee basis. Maybe some charities and action groups will have the resources. I would expect progress to be slow."

Though applicants can, in theory, represent themselves, most commentators believe this would be impractical. Mrs Aarons says the Act is full of hazy words such as "substantial", "reasonable" and "normal", whose meaning will be established only by taking cases to industrial tribunals and seeing how they are interpreted. Ms Nicolle says: "The principles are clear but there are a lot of grey areas of interpretation. Until a body of case law is established, we shan't be clear what it all means."

Ms Leslie agrees. "The Disability Discrimination Act is a lawyers' paradise," she says. "It is full of words that are very imprecise." In the absence of legal aid, therefore, it may be a long time before that case law emerges. The likelihood is that it will be up to committed firms, such as Stephens Innocent and

Parinson & Brewer, which under-takes a lot of trade union work, to make the running.

Jane Brown, a solicitor with Stephens Innocent, says: "We already work for a number of charities, so it is quite likely that individual applicants will come to us on word-of-mouth recommendation. How we shall do the work I am not clear at this stage. The fact that there are no ceilings on the possible awards will create uncertainty for some time. It will also affect the willingness of lawyers to do contingency work."

The employment provisions, however, are just the first part of a two-stage process. Probably next year the "goods and services" dimension of the Act will be brought into force.

But there seems to be controversy about just how useful the Act will be in making companies change their ways to give disabled people equal access to places such as cinemas and leisure centres.

Mrs Aarons says: "There will be the same basic arguments about what the words mean. The result will be that employment lawyers will become involved again because they will be the ones that best understand what discrimination and disability actually mean."

Of course, many disabled people feel that they already know what this means. Persuading the courts may be another matter.

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Judicial Studies Board & Lord Chancellor's Department

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Practice In-House

Planning & Environmental **Newly Qualified**
A top City practice with an acknowledged expertise in this field wants to recruit a September 1996 qualifier who has had a seat in Planning/Environmental law during training and wishes to specialise. Ref: 2930L

Corporate Tax **Newly Qualified**
This top City firm is now looking to recruit a young enthusiastic NQ who has had a corporate tax seat whilst training. This represents an opportunity to develop your skills in this discipline in one of the top tax units in the country. Ref: 781DL

Company Commercial **3-4 years PQE**
A large West End firm needs to recruit a company lawyer to undertake a general mix of work including joint ventures, acquisitions and disposals, Blue and Yellow Book matters. There are excellent promotion prospects. Ref: 1178DL

Commercial Property **c.2 years PQE**
This Mayfair based firm with a strong reputation for its property work needs a 2-3 year qualified lawyer to act for major institutional landlords & tenants. Some investment and development work is also available. Ref: 2288DL

Commercial Property **Birmingham**
This national practice has an excellent opportunity for a commercial property lawyer with around 2 years experience to join their successful team dealing with a broad range of work including developments and investments. Ref: 130AF

Company Commercial **Reading**
One of the most successful Thames Valley practices has an opening for a solicitor with 2 or more years experience (including senior lawyers with practice development skills) to join the company department. Ref: 1578AF

Co/Com - Unique Role **London**
A high calibre solicitor, at least 4 years qualified from a leading international law firm, is required by this prestigious US organisation to assume a role covering Europe and the Middle East. Ref: 2205NT

IT Lawyer **London**
This well known IT multinational requires a lawyer, ideally aged 28 to 33, with extensive IT and commercial experience to join a small, business focused team. Ref: 1043RN

Commercial Lawyer **Middlesex**
This dynamic and young company, operating in the TV industry, urgently requires a high calibre lawyer, 2/3 years qualified, with previous IT or IP experience. Ref: 195NT

2 Senior Corporate Roles **USA & Switzerland**
This large US multinational requires 2 high calibre corporate solicitors/attorneys, 6 to 8 years qualified with leading UK/US law firms, to handle substantial international corporate, M&A and investment matters. Ref: 1075NT

NQ To 5 Years **The Netherlands**
This multinational company requires 2 solicitors, newly to 1 year and 4 to 5 years qualified, to handle a broad international company/commercial role based at the worldwide headquarters. Ref: 1045NT

NQ To 5 Years **Russia & Eastern Europe**
This major international organisation requires high calibre lawyers for positions in Moscow, Prague, Warsaw, Budapest, Baku, Riga, Tallin, Vilnius, Almaty and Vladivostok. Local linguistic skills or experience of working in these areas is essential. Ref: 988NT

Contact Daniel Lewis or Andre Field

Contact Naveen Tuli or Rachael North

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COMMERCIAL

Leisure-related household name seeks a solicitor/barrister with 6-12 years' commercial experience for a one year contract. Experience in drafting and negotiating contracts essential. Experience in marketing/advertising would be useful. Ref: 28342

NON-FEE EARNING

Corporate lawyer with up-to-date experience required to update and draft corporate precedents for this City based firm. Start date is flexible and the contract will probably last for 2-3 months. Ref: 28035

PRIVATE CLIENT

This medium-sized City firm seeks a solicitor with between 18 months' and 4 years' PQE to assist in their private client department. Candidates will be required to assist with drafting of wills, deeds of retirement and inheritance tax issues. Contract to start in July for a 6 month period. Ref: 28288

In addition to the above we have urgent requirements for suitable applicants in the following areas:
Company Commercial 1-5 yrs' PQE
Domestic Conveyancing 3-10 yrs' PQE
Non-contentious Intellectual Property 3-5 yrs' PQE

For further information please call Nicky Rutherford-Jones or Emma Hopkins on 0171-405 6062 (0171-350 0682 or 0181-540 2381 evenings/weekends) or write to us at Special Project Lawyer, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171 831 6394. E-mail: nicky@spdlaw.co.uk

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 4. Have 5-8 years P.Q.E. (Solicitor/Legal Exec.)?

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LONDON/MIDLANDS/HONG KONG

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION **To £30,000**
What does it take to keep lawyers happy? Easy - good work, good clients, good money and good prospects. One of London's most progressive firms can offer all of these to a litigator with 6 months' to 18 months' experience. Will consider top quality newly qualified. Ref: T2134

PROPERTY **To £35,000**
This top 10 London firm isn't one of the best property firms in the country for nothing. That's why it only wants a quality commercial property lawyer with 2 years' PQE to act for its major institutional landlords in blue chip development and investment matters. Ref: T21477

CORPORATE/CAPITAL MARKETS **To £65,000**
Howdy possible partner. A firm from over there doing rather well over here wants you. Major US firm in London with very strong capital markets expertise is interested in a UK or US lawyer with 2-4 years' PQE in capital markets and corporate work. Ref: T16489

CONSTRUCTION **To £Partnership**
One day, your fairy godmother told you many years ago, you will have the chance to join a City-led multinational partnership as a construction lawyer with 6+ years' experience. It will be a pivotal position at the firm, leading to partnership, so don't miss it. Ref: T28279

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY **Birmingham To £50,000**
Birmingham is a very exciting place to be at the moment, with its largest firms hunting down the City in all the league tables for size and skill. This firm leads the pack and needs a 3-6 year qualified commercial property lawyer with a bit of bite. Ref: T18953

CORPORATE FINANCE **To £70,000**
What goes up must come down? Don't believe it. Physics-defying national firm will offer a great London-based opportunity to a 3-5 year qualified corporate finance lawyer who knows both the law and the market and who is happy to advertise the fact to potential clients. Ref: T20462

EU **To £36,000**
Work for a major City law firm that has a particularly good utilities practice. Specialise in European law and take the chance to use the full range of your knowledge. Come and help existing team if you are 2 years qualified and ambitious. Ref: T26763

INSURANCE **To £60,000**
There you were thinking no firm could make full use of you, a 2-3 year qualified non-contentious insurance lawyer with some F&A experience and an understanding of EC law in both fields, when this top 10 firm proved you wrong. Optional Lloyd's and/or insurance broking knowledge of interest. Ref: T17952

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER IN-HOUSE **To £40,000**
The technology transfer directive is probably the most important EU development this year. This technology group needs a junior legal adviser for help in the area, as well as some other corporate work, before training up for complex licensing agreements. 2-3 years' PQE in IP, IT or competition please. Ref: T27588

EMPLOYMENT LITIGATION **To £34,000**
It's not easy working in this London firm's employment department. First there's its high profile reputation to live up to. Then there are the high profile clients. And finally there's the fact that it is extremely successful. It's tough, but a 1-2 year qualified could do it. Ref: T27349

BANKING/CAPITAL MARKETS **To £Partnership**
When you look in the mirror, do you see a potential partner staring back? This job for a 3-8 year qualified banking or capital markets lawyer with impressive background reflects the progress of this top 10 international firm and heads you towards the partnership table. Ref: T744

TELECOMS **Hong Kong To £100,000 + package**
Where can a telecoms lawyer get involved in exciting international work for a major City player? Hong Kong. Where can a telecoms lawyer earn money that recognises his expertise? Hong Kong. Where can a telecoms lawyer live a life that few other places can match? Hong Kong. Ref: T28280

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY **To £48,000**
The trademark of this top 10 international City-based firm is quality. It will give full licence to original 3-4 year qualified lawyers - no unauthorised copies please - who are keen to undertake non-contentious IP/IT work for its major UK and international media clients. Ref: T20816

CORPORATE TAX **To £43,000**
Do you want to be loved? This top 10 firm recognises the importance of its large corporate tax department and shows its appreciation with a very broad range of work, including corporate acquisitions and property transactions. 1-3 year qualified needed to join a happy team. Ref: T19683

For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Christopher Sweeney, Jonathan Marsden or Adrian Fox (all qualified lawyers) on 0171-405 6062 (0181-960 6527 or 0171-266 4292 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Douglas Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394. E-mail: christopher@qdrecruitment.co.uk

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MAJOR RECORD COMPANY

COMMERCIAL LAWYER

By common consent one of the world's leading record companies, and a household name in the music and entertainment industries, our client is to recruit an experienced commercial lawyer for its legal team in London. An IP background could be ideal, particularly if non-contentious, although candidates with other relevant experience may also apply; previous involvement with the music industry is not required. Excellent compensation will include a very competitive salary, car and other benefits.

- c. 2-5 years' PQE
- commercial acumen and experience
- IP background an advantage
- drafting and negotiating skills

Reporting to the Director of Legal Affairs, the appointee will enjoy varied and appropriate responsibilities from a range encompassing commercial agreements, copyright licensing, trademark registration, anti-piracy measures, I.T. and so on, handling work personally or supervising external consultants and professionals as necessary. The role will be commercial rather than artist-oriented, offering exciting scope for acting on substantial and interesting matters in various areas of the company's business.

This assignment is being handled exclusively by Reuter Simkin. To discuss the opportunity in complete confidence please telephone Philip Boynton LLM (Harvard) quoting reference 28909. Alternatively, send your cv to him at the address below.

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5 Bream's Buildings, Chancery Lane, London EC4A 3DF
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E-mail: 100621.2024@compuserve.com

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Barrister, in criminal law,
formerly of 34 Finsbury
Square, is now in practice
from:
P.O. Box 32, Portonbury,
CF72 9YG (Cardiff).
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BRITISH AEROSPACE



Hertfordshire

British Aerospace is a FTSE-100 company and the UK's leading exporter. It has over recent years refocused its activities on its core defence and aerospace businesses. British Aerospace has recently formed a new Asset Management Division to manage all the aircraft in which it retains a financial responsibility.

A superb opportunity has now arisen for a high calibre finance lawyer to join the Asset Management Division. Reporting to the Senior Legal Adviser, you will work closely with senior commercial management and be a key member of a small dynamic and established legal team. Principal responsibilities will include aircraft sale and lease transactions; project

management; refurbishment and procurement agreements; contractual disputes and the provision of general corporate advice. The role involves significant overseas travel.

Your profile:

- 2-4 years post qualification experience gained in a leading firm or industry which should include asset finance and aircraft leasing.
- Excellent commercial awareness combined with a practical, organised approach.
- Ambition and drive to thrive in a highly commercial business environment.
- Strong technical, interpersonal and communication skills.



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The remuneration package will reflect the organisation's commitment to seeking an outstanding individual.

For further information in complete confidence, please telephone Daniel Richards on 0171 269 2240 or write to him enclosing your CV at Michael Page Legal, Page House, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LH or fax him on 0171 831 6662. This assignment is being handled exclusively by Michael Page, all direct or third party applications will be forwarded to them.

EMPLOYMENT

CITY
Young medium sized firm with a high profile reputation for employment law seeks a lawyer with 0-4 years' PQE with City background to undertake contentious and non-contentious work of the highest quality for household names. You will negotiate termination payments, draft service agreements and incentive and share option schemes and deal with redundancy, unfair dismissal and the enforceability of RCs. A challenging and rewarding role with true partnership prospects. Ref: 1420.
Contact: Pandora Close on 0171 242 0303 (or 0181 878 6044 evenings/weekends).

SENIOR COMMERCIAL/CORPORATE CITY
One of the most progressive firms in the City is looking for a senior assistant with a track record of technical excellence and the ability to maintain strong client relationships. Working closely with multi-disciplinary teams, currently involved in managing an extremely active portfolio of Public and Private company work you will have a minimum of 4 years' PQE. The successful individual will be looking for a fresh challenge and have the drive to play an active part in the firm's continuing expansion. Ref: 1341.
Contact: Peter Gosden on 0171 242 0303 (or 0181 969 9094 evenings/weekends).

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY CITY
Highly successful medium sized firm at the cutting edge and with a pre-eminent reputation for its property law expertise seeks a commercial property lawyer with 1-4 years' PQE with personality and flair. You will handle the full spectrum of the highest quality work for a wide range of clients including property companies, banks, developers, retailers and insurers and will enjoy a mentorship with early partnership prospects. Ref: 1335.
Contact: Pandora Close on 0171 242 0303 (or 0181 878 6044 evenings/weekends).

PENSIONS x2

CITY
A leading national practice can offer an exceptional opportunity to ambitious assistants with 2-4 years' PQE. You will assist an experienced partner with an established reputation on a wide range of scheme advisory, transactional work. You will be able to broaden your knowledge by undertaking a range of related contentious matters and employee benefits work. This is a close knit team environment which provides proper supervision, a good level of client contact and genuine prospects. Ref: 1276.
Contact: Peter Gosden on 0171 242 0303 (or 0181 969 9094 evenings/weekends).

BANKING LAWYERS CITY
Our client is one of the leading banking and finance practices in the City representing UK and International clients from its London and several Overseas offices. The firm has tripled in size over the past decade and is well-known for offering real prospects to its fee-earners. You will have 1-6 years' PQE and want to work in a friendly, supportive team where the culture is 'open-door' and 'unsurprisingly' highly professional. This firm has a high regard for Antipodean lawyers and welcomes applications from appropriate candidates. Ref: 1808.
Contact: Jane Glassberg on 0171 242 0303 (or 0171 722 8849 evenings/weekends).

INSURANCE CITY
Superb opportunity for contentious and/or non-contentious insurance assistants with between 1-4 years' PQE to join this medium sized City firm, whose insurance practice is one of the largest and high-profile in the UK. This firm's Lloyd's office provides an on the spot service to the Lloyd's insurance market and has acted in many of the major cases in the insurance sector over the last decade. There is substantial expertise in the regulatory and corporate areas of insurance. Strong academics are essential and your experience should be from a leading City firm or from a niche Central London practice. Ref: 1207.
Contact: Jane Glassberg on 0171 242 0303 (or 0171 722 8849 evenings/weekends).



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Solicitor or Barrister

Lloyd's of London is the world's leading insurance market, governed by its own Act of Parliament.

The Regulatory Proceedings Team in the Legal Services Department deals with a wide range of issues concerning allegations of market misconduct including the conduct of formal inquiries and disciplinary proceedings before Lloyd's disciplinary committees, as well as challenges to any regulatory action taken. It includes the conduct of cases on appeal to Lloyd's Appeal Tribunal.

Lloyd's is seeking to recruit a Solicitor or Barrister with a minimum of four years' experience to manage a caseload (which will include advising client departments) to join this team. Relevant experience of insurance and reinsurance litigation, contentious regulatory or Lloyd's work would be an advantage, as will some experience of "white-collar" criminal matters.

A competitive remuneration package and excellent support structure is offered. Applications are being handled for Lloyd's by Lucy Boyd at Lipson Lloyd-Jones. To apply, please send her your CV with covering letter to arrive by Tuesday, 25th June, 1996. All applications will be treated in the strictest confidence.

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PRIVATE PRACTICE - LONDON

Media/Telecoms/IP

Leading City media firm seeks a 2-5 year qualified media assistant, ideally with relevant telecoms and IP experience. Candidates must be dynamic, good client-developers and team-oriented.
Ref: 28275

Construction

Well-regarded City firm seeks a senior construction assistant with both contentious and non-contentious experience; ideally 4-years qualified with a sound construction background.
Ref: 29940

Corporate Insurance

Prominent City firm requires a 1-5 years-qualified corporate insurance assistant; must have a sound academic background, good technical experience and excellent communication skills.
Ref: 29548

Information Technology

With a blue-chip reputation for its practice and client-base, and also its management, this City law firm is expanding its IT team, offering exceptional opportunities at all levels.
Ref: 23496

Corporate

Corporate lawyers who are not already in the ideal job should move now: openings with this leading practice are part of a City-wide demand which shows no sign of abating in the near future.
Ref: 25181

Commercial Litigation

At a time when most litigation vacancies are for narrow specialists in insurance, this is an opportunity for a high-calibre litigator to undertake varied commercial work of an exceptional quality.
Ref: 27902

To discuss these opportunities in total confidence please contact Philip Boynton LL.M (Harvard) or Matthew Root LL.B (Hons). Alternatively, send your CV to either of them at the address below.

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CENTRAL LONDON

Marks & Spencer p.l.c. continues to enjoy an unrivalled reputation for providing products and services of outstanding quality and value. Following another progressive year, annual turnover is \$7.2 billion and the company has again enjoyed record profits.

To ensure continued growth the company is committed to a process of extending and refurbishing established stores (both in the high street and edge-of-town) and acquiring new stores. Over the next year more than 500,000 sq ft of selling space will be added in the UK and Europe.

There now exists an exciting opportunity for an experienced lawyer to join the company's commercial property team within the Legal Department at Head Office. This position will provide the successful candidate with exposure to high-profile work, including major site acquisitions and developments, joint ventures and new projects, as well as the management of an extensive portfolio of prime retail property.

- The ideal candidate will be a solicitor with:
- 3-4 years' post-qualification experience gained in private practice or commerce industry
 - preferably some previous involvement in the retail sector including expertise in site acquisition assembly and development work

£ ATTRACTIVE + BENEFITS

- a willingness and aptitude to develop an in-depth understanding of the company and to take an active and commercial role in negotiations at an early stage
- proven ability to provide quality advice in a high pressure environment and to communicate effectively at all levels.

Experience of planning and environmental issues would also be an advantage although not essential.

This appointment offers a competitive basic salary and a superb benefits package which increases with length of service, including a car, generous non-contributory pension scheme and profit share.

This assignment is being handled exclusively by Deborah Kirkman and Stuart Morton on behalf of Robert Walters Associates. Any direct applications will be forwarded to them. For further information, in complete confidence, please contact either of them on 0171-379 3333 (confidential fax 0171 915 8714) or write to them at 25 Bedford Street, London WC2E 9HP enclosing a full CV. Internet: deborah.kirkman@robertwalters.com

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Our client is the European arm of a major and well respected insurance/reinsurance group with operations spanning Asia, the Pacific, Europe, Australasia and North America. The Company Secretarial Department is at the centre of providing professional advice in support of the company's continued growth and diversification and there is now a need to appoint a high calibre Deputy Company Secretary.

In this new position you will report to the Company Secretary and assist in the provision of professional advice and service covering the full range of legal and secretarial matters, including statutory compliance, personnel, general administration and servicing the Board. You will also have the opportunity to develop your knowledge of regulation/compliance and licensing

Issues pertaining to the insurance sector - all within a professional and enjoyable working environment.

Candidates should hold a professional legal or company secretarial qualification supported by at least two years' relevant professional experience and some exposure to all mainstream company secretarial activities. Whilst experience of the insurance sector would be helpful it will not be as important as your personal qualities which must include energy, enthusiasm, initiative and professionalism.

Please send full personal and career details, including current remuneration and daytime telephone number, in confidence to Tim Latham, Coopers & Lybrand Executive Resourcing Ltd, 1 Embankment Place, London WC2N 6NN, quoting reference TL1184 on both envelope and letter.

London Partnerships

CORPORATE FINANCE

A Corporate Finance/M&A lawyer with good City pedigree and connections is sought for partnership role by a thriving, progressive medium-sized City firm. An attractive remuneration package awaits an ambitious lawyer, able to manage and work in a team, who will have a proven track record in client development skills.

BANKING & INTERNATIONAL FINANCE
A dynamic individual is sought to work alongside the partners of a small but long-established and flourishing Banking & Finance Group within a medium-size City firm. The work has a strong international dimension and consists of mainstream banking with an emphasis on secured lending and asset/property finance. Proven marketing and client development skills are essential.

SHIPPING LITIGATION

Our client boasts a shipping department unusual in the breadth of work it covers, from ship finance to oil pollution claims. A rare opportunity has arisen for an experienced shipping litigator with client connections, who is happy to handle admiralty matters such as collision & salvage, and/or P&IClub work and marine insurance claims.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

Our client is a City firm with a strong property team and a particular reputation for retail expertise. An outstanding opportunity exists at partner level for a senior property specialist of the highest calibre to work alongside the department head. You will possess real flair for development & marketing, and can confidently command a superb package.

For further information in absolute confidence, please contact Dominique Graham, who specialises exclusively in partner moves, at Graham Gill & Young, 46 Kingsway, London WC2B 6EN. Tel 0171 430 1711. Fax 0171 831 4186.



GRAHAM GILL & YOUNG

Rocking and rolling to £1,000 prize

Seaman's saves are the jewels in King's crown

RYAN KING, from London, is the winner of section two of The Times's Euro Interactive Team Football competition, run in association with Winterthur. His team, Rockers and Rollers, has won the first prize in the section, which finished with the second round of group matches on Sunday. Mr King, whose team scored 44 points, included one of England's heroes in the win over Scotland on Saturday, David Seaman, in his side.

His judicious selection wins him £1,000 for the highest score of the section and keeps him in the race for the overall £25,000 prize for the top selector in Euro ITF. Mr King is 22nd overall, 12 points behind the leading Larger Lions, selected by S Burchfield, of Ipswich.

Mr King's winning XI contains several of the tournament's leading stars — Davor Suker, whose brilliant performance for Croatia against Denmark put them in the quarter-finals, Hristo Stoichkov, whose goals have fired Bulgaria, and Matthias Sammer, the elegant German sweeper. And Seaman, the scourge of the Scots with that penalty save, is in goal.

Mr King's team was:

Goalkeeper
David Seaman (England)

Full backs
Stefan Reuter (Germany)
Michael Reiziger (Holland)

Central defenders
Matthias Sammer (Germany)
Fernando Couto (Portugal)

Midfield players
Darren Anderton (England)
Zinedine Zidane (France, RS)
Demetrio Albertini (Italy)
Paulo Sousa (Portugal)

Strikers
Hristo Stoichkov (Bulgaria)
Davor Suker (Croatia)

Manager
Guus Hiddink (Holland)

The race for the overall prize



In association with
winterthur

of £25,000 continues, however. As the European championship finals move into the third round of group matches today, Euro ITF selectors now have a better idea of how their players are performing under the pressures of competition.

Jürgen Klinsmann's brace of goals for Germany against Russia has made him a possible contender for a transfer, for example. And will Peter Schmeichel recover from his tribulations at the hands of Suker and Croatia?

Another factor that has emerged in the first week of Euro 96 is the proliferation of red and yellow cards — 82 cautions and four sendings off. As discipline will cost you points, it will be worth casting an eye over the teams that have attracted the referee's attention. The full list of bookings and dismissals can be found on page 48 today.

Particularly hard hit have been the Germans (surprisingly), the Bulgarians, the Portuguese and the Spanish, all teams fancied to do well in the tournament. In Euro ITF, every goal your players score and every card they receive counts. And good defence is rewarded too.

Euro ITF reflects the real world of Euro 96. It is up to you to prove your selection skills by picking a team to beat the best. Having done that, you may attempt to improve your points-scoring potential by using the transfer system.

Your team must always be in line with the format of one goalkeeper, two full backs, two central defenders, four midfield players, two strikers and a manager. You may not pick more than two individuals (player or manager) from the same country. You must also include one Rising Star (but no more than one) in your team and those players, 16 promising footballers — one from each country — as selected by The Times panel.

The Rising Stars are: Full backs: Radostin Kishishev (Bulgaria); Jacob Laursen (Denmark); Gary Neville (England). Midfield players: Mario Stanic (Croatia); Patrik Berger (Czech Republic); Zinedine Zidane (France); Mehmet Scholl (Germany); Edgar Davids (Holland); Iulian Filipescu (Romania); Johan Vögel (Switzerland); Seren Vögel (Turkey). Strikers: Enrico Chiesa (Italy); Antonio Folha (Portugal); Vladimir Beschastnykh (Russia); Scott Booth (Scotland); Kiko Narvaez (Spain).

The use of the squad system might persuade Euro ITF selectors to transfer players who have not featured thus far in Euro 96. Arrigo Sacchi, the Italy coach, showed that after Italy's opening win against Russia — and look how it backfired! He made five changes to a winning team and saw his men beaten by the Czech Republic and facing an early exit.

The Euro ITF competition is separated into five transfer sections. For each section, you may transfer up to five individual players (including the manager), but it is important to note that you may only use the transfer facility once for each team. If used more than once, that team will revert to its original form.

The first two sections have passed and you have until 2.30 this afternoon, in which to register transfers which would become effective in Section 3. During Section 3 (from 4.30pm today to tomorrow inclusive), team selectors may register their next transfers, which will become effective for matches in Section 4.

During Section 4, which covers the four quarter-finals, team selectors may now choose up to four individuals from any one country, which will become effective for Section 5, which covers the semi-finals and the final.

□ All queries on Euro Interactive Team Football should be directed to 0171 757 7016.



The elegant Sammer is a high flier in Euro ITF with 11 points to his name already. Should the German sweeper be in your side?

HOW THE SCORING SYSTEM WORKS IN EURO ITF

All matches in Euro 96 season count for points. Every goal and penalty counts

POINTS SCORED	
GOALKEEPER	Scored goal (including penalty shoot-out) +2
Strikes clean sheet* (including penalty shoot-out) +4	
Strikes goal (including penalty shoot-out) +3	
Saves penalty in penalty shoot-out +3	
FULL BACK/CENTRAL DEFENDER	Appearance +1
Scored goal in extra time +4	
Strikes clean sheet* (including penalty shoot-out) +3	
Strikes goal (including penalty shoot-out) +3	
MIDFIELD PLAYER	Team wins in group match +3
Strikes clean sheet* (including penalty shoot-out) +1	
Team wins in group match +1	
Team wins in quarter-final, semi-final or final +6	

POINTS DEDUCTED	
GOALKEEPER	Concedes penalty (including penalty shoot-out) -2
Strikes clean sheet* (including penalty shoot-out) -2	
FULL BACK/CENTRAL DEFENDER	Concedes goal (including penalty shoot-out) -2
Strikes clean sheet* (including penalty shoot-out) -2	
ALL PLAYERS	Team loses in group match -1
Yellow card -1	
Second yellow card (sent off with red card) -2	
Red card (sent off without being shown yellow card previously) -3	

* must have played for 75 minutes in the match
* must have played for 45 minutes in the match



HOW TO MAKE A TRANSFER IN EURO ITF

Call 0891 333 335

Calls will be charged at 39p per minute cheap rate, 49p per minute at other times. If calling from the Republic of Ireland call 004 4990 200 635

You may make transfers only by telephone using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone). You will need your ten-digit selector's PIN. Follow the simple instructions and use the players' five-digit codes.

During a transfer period, you may make up to five transfers but may only call the transfer line once per team.

The Euro ITF competition is separated into five transfer sections. For each of the first four sections you may transfer up to five individuals (including the manager) but retain the format of one goalkeeper, two full backs, two central defenders, four midfield players, two strikers and a manager. You may not pick more than two individuals from the same country and you must include one (and no more than one) rising star.

For section five only you may transfer up to five individuals (including the manager), maintaining the team format and rising star restrictions but you may pick up to four individuals from the same country.

SECTION ONE (Saturday June 8 to Tuesday June 11): completed.

SECTION TWO (Thursday June 13 to Sunday June 16): completed.

SECTION THREE (Tuesday June 18 to Wednesday June 19): transfers may be made up to 2.30pm today and will be effective from the commencement of section three.

SECTION FOUR (Saturday June 22 to Sunday June 23): transfers may be made from 4.30pm today until 1pm on Saturday June 22 and will be effective from the commencement of section four.

SECTION FIVE (Wednesday June 26 to Sunday June 30): transfers may be made from 3pm on Saturday June 22 until 2pm on Wednesday June 26 and will be effective from the commencement of section five.

Player out: Club

Player in: Club

Player code

Club

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PLAY EURO ITF ON THE INTERNET

IT IS easy to play Euro Interactive Team Football on the Internet. All your player transfers can be made free, on-line. Special screens allow you to check the performance of your team and individual players.

Internet players are also eligible for special £250 prizes, as well as the prizes in the main competition.

Enter The Times's Internet edition home page on

<http://www.the-times.co.uk>

and click on to the Euro ITF "Button".

THE TOP 250 PLAYERS IN EURO INTERACTIVE TEAM FOOTBALL

Pos	Team	(Player's name)	Pts
1	Larger Lions	(S Burchfield)	70
2	Neff All 4	(Mr W Phillips)	66
2	Real vicenza	(Messimo Garzotto)	66
4	Pod-don	(A Sanderford)	62
4	Slept Against E	(S Shipley)	62
4	Very Much So	(RS Robinson)	62
7	The Eurocrats	(Mr RA Peablies)	61
7	Trytown Cubs	(C Anson)	61
9	DEVONTODDADERE	(Tom Kelly)	60
9	A Wing And A Prayer	(Mr S Hamilton)	60
9	Van Der Sar	(R Clutterbuck)	60
13	Euro Class X III	(A Siddie)	59
13	Tom's Boys 2	(M Jones)	59
13	Nobby 19	(J Brown)	59
13	Goodfellas	(V Beechler)	59
13	Pacific Gazza	(S Wynn)	59
13	Today's Team	(Mr C Jones)	59
13	Dodgy Seaman Ltd	(J Marchetti)	59
13	Clardand	(Mr S Clark)	59
13	The Oldie X I	(A Oldie)	59
22	Rockers & Rollers	(Mr R King)	58
22	Oldham Aces	(D Hoskins)	58
22	Dom Finish 2nd	(Mr I Ralph)	58
22	Try Town Buccaneers	(Mr C Hamilton)	58
26	Quelenguerleyto	(Graeme Hall)	57
26	MCTV	(Simon Collins)	57
26	Braveheart	(L Stradley)	57
26	Euro Giants	(R Morris)	57
26	Liverpool No 2	(A Pulzer)	57
26	King Mid O Srikanta	(Mr M Patera)	57
26	Euro Class X I	(B Weale)	57
26	Real Dreadful F C	(Mr B McLarnon)	57
26	Miracles Of Course	(D Hampton)	57
26	J Complete	(J Villegas)	57
26	Disco Culo	(Mr J Nicol)	57
26	Niall 150496	(Mr G Dear)	57
26	Gods IV Gadgets	(Gael Telling)	57
26	A C Millane	(Mr S Wood)	57
39	Hookers Handful	(E Hook)	56
39	Irish Justice	(P O'Rourke)	56
39	Play Eric 2	(R Packer)	56
39	Puppy Dreamers	(E Rose)	56
39	Euro Champs	(M Patel)	56
39	Savvy Day Weekend	(Mr J Wilson)	56
39	Brinkbrow United	(Mr G Weiss)	56
39	Euro All Stars	(Mr J Tarr)	56
39	Billies Brigade	(N Jennings)	56
39	Cosacks Wanderers	(Mr C Lennard)	56
39	A C Loadalia	(Mr E Lazenby)	56
39	Suits You Sir	(Mr D Vaughan)	56
39	Try Town Rockets	(C Hanson)	56
39	Punjab Warriors	(KS Rai)	56
39	I Love You	(Mr Peter King)	56
39	Set Against C	(S Shipley)	56
39	Foreign Bodies	(J Costello)	56
39	Red Card Rovers	(P Crossley)	56
39	Artistic 48's	(Mr P Bortland)	56
39	Am's Boys	(A Garcia)	56
39	Jaques Potatoes	(Mr P Barham)	56
39	Forti Fortuna	(S Clifford)	56
39	Notem Name	(Mr A Holder)	56
39	Fancasito	(Mr N Casson)	56
39	Euro Stars Twelve	(Mr D Fenton)	56
39	Apache	(Mr P Darrow)	56
39	Get The De Boers In	(Mr S Kiefer)	56
39	3 Lions United	(R Pollington)	56
39	Dreamworks	(Mr D Akhtar)	56
39	Ou Est Ginele?	(Mr A Temperley)	56

FIND OUT HOW YOUR TEAM IS DOING



Calls will be charged at 39p per minute cheap rate, 49p per minute at other times

Call the Euro ITF hotline on 0891 774 796

From Ireland call 004 4990 200 604

Check your points total and your ranking. You need a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone) and your ten-digit selector's PIN.

The line is open from noon each day

55	JCB 1	(Mr J Bingham)	55
55	Euro All Stars	(Mr G Clark)	55
55	No Hope England	(Mr S Fraser)	55
55	J G 3	(J Goody)	55
55	Langston Longballs	(Mark Ward)	55
55	Dynamo Pacific	(Paul McKinnon)	55
55	Saints And Sinners	(Mr B Patel)	55
55	The Emlyn Badders	(T Dorin)	55
55	Euro Cockroaches	(A Burford)	55
55	Baggy Super Stars	(K Donohue)	55
55	Kersal Flyers	(S Knowlton)	55
55	The Rabbit Bat	(Mr P Ames)	55
55	Jabberwocky	(A Pawley)	55
55	Pawley's Players	(J Dickinson)	55
55	Spirits Of Mearnuct	(Mr Snelling)	55
55	Spinnors	(J Bartram)	55
55	Dan & Daves X I	(S Watkins)	55
55	Poocakaka F C	(Mr D Hopkins)	55
55	Have We Won Yet?	(I McCann)	55
55	All Out Attack	(A Sen)	55
55	Barlton Green F C	(P Lake)	55
55	Crickat Lover	(Mr M Thomas)	55
55	Tomo Happy Hammers	(Mr Shuter)	55
55	Ras A	(Mr D Shuter)	55
55	Das 2	(Mr RM Thain)	55
55	Where's Bob?	(Mr N McGregor)	55
55	Charmwood Blazes	(Mr L Lynn)	55
55	Welsh Bitter Eleven	(Jenn Martin)	55
55	Keele Villa	(Mr S Davies)	55
55	Llanedoch 1	(M Alder)	55
55	Marke Macconaries	(M Homes)	55
55	Jadufal Jams	(C Brooks)	55
55	Super Basil	(J Penner)	55
55	Small Dough F C	(T Mansfield)	55
55	Shooting Stars	(Mr C Mill-Homens)	55
55	Portuguese Kings	(Mr D Powell)	55
55	Jaime Alme Jacquet	(G Metcalfe)	55
55	Benjes Yorkies	(G Owen)	55
55	Eurotrash	(G Owen)	55

53	Peyez C	(Mr P Mesthian)	53	141	Two Left Feet	(A Jones)	53
53	Just A Chance	(P Cousins)	53	141	Euro Elite	(E Eagle)	53
53	Strouwell United	(Mr G Trail)	53	141	Skof	(I McElen)	53
53	The Brokers	(Mr D Pigney)	53	141	Abtab	(Mr A Psearns)	53
53	The Jelly Heads 2	(Mr D Rod)	53	141	Belvedereans	(Mr T Hawkins)	53
53	Who Are Dundee?	(Mr A Knott)	53	141	Gods-Fast Two	(G Brothers)	53
53	Plying Gunns	(Mr T Doyle)	53	141	Demolition Men	(Mr G Brothers)	53
53	Euro Beerbellies	(Mr P Nunn)	53	141	Allstars	(RS Dhines)	53
53	B T S 111	(Mr I Muir)	53	141	The Heartwork E P	(N Amanovic)	53
53	Clean Sheet Ltd	(Mr D White)	53	141	Zaharah F C	(A Bald)	53
53	Sidcup F C	(Mr G Jewell)	53	141	Section Stormers	(Mr S Pritchard)	53
53	Knot Very Athletic	(I Smith)	53	141	Bilic Fan Club	(Mr S Allen)	53
53	Russian Winners	(Mr M Ivanov)	53	141	Jessie's Dicts	(Mr CF Jones)	53
53	Leorning	(Mr R Zamrod)	53	141	G G 4	(J Goody)	53
53	Dock Side Rovers	(P Pearson)	53	141	Lamb Fielding	(S Davies)	53
53	Andy H C	(Mr A Morgan)	53	141	Jimmies Giants	(Mr Saunders)	53
53	Craig Brown Why?	(Mr M Sawley)	53	141	Not Athletic	(Mr G Low)	53
53	Das 2	(D Shuter)	53	141	No Hope X I	(K King)	53
53	Spicers 008	(Mr J Doody)	53	199	Five Euro Stars	(S Graham)	53
53	T V Gros Betard 1996	(Mr MMG Guelano)	53	199	Kem's Team	(K Gray)	53
53	Dennis's Barry Army	(Mr D Mahon)	53	199	Sparta Breaks	(Dr D Seeley)	53
53	Koi Carp United	(D Seager)	53	199	Jonas Cat	(Sargeant)	53
53	Urban Pastures	(Mr J Beck)	53	199	The Ankie Tappers	(P Crossley)	53
53	Claret And Amber F C	(Mr M Toothill)	53	199	Euro Beads	(P O'Connell)	53
53	Seaman Stays	(N Blakeley)	53	199	EURO SPORTS	(M Baber)	53
53	Trytown Redlocks	(C Anson)	53	199	Barjengo	(B Collins)	53
53	B T S Boys	(Mr I Muir)	53	199	Thunder F C	(S Norman)	53
53	Previous Reasons	(Mr N Hargreth)	53	199	Garys Club	(D Pearson)	53
53	Real Madras	(Mr T Sutherland)	53	199	West Haddham United	(A Coleman)	53
53	Elite Squad 11 Ltd	(Mr J Sparks)	53	199	Euro 96	(S Taylor)	53
53	allanone145	(Raka Hamman)	53	199	Ironstone I I	(T Howard)	53
53	Super Sonics	(S Pucini)	53	199	Officio Wingers	(Mr L Moore)	53
53	Berry's United	(D Taylor)	53	199	Big Bus Rovers	(A Bussey)	53
53	Euro Fools	(D Lawrence)	53	199	Euro Revelation	(J Gillan)	53
53	The Nightmare Team	(D Rae)	53	199	The Razors	(R Livingstone)	53
53	Poppyfields	(M Berry)	53	199	Nobby Twenty	(Mr J Brown)	53
53	Cat's Dream Team	(Mr I MacKenzie)	53	199	Celtic Warriors	(Mr T McCafferty)	53
53	Goal Justice	(C Tenny)	53	199	Daves Club	(Dr D Pearson)	53
53	Euro Big Boys	(Mr M Hawkins)	53	199	Gezzie's Euro Party	(Mr J Cotter)	53
53	Beardless 2	(Mr J Cushion)	53	199	Tiger Cats	(Mr S Beady)	53
53	The Ninety Sixth Boys	(C Hampton)	53	199	Los Spillieros	(Mr C Heck)	53
53	Real Rovers	(C Bormion)	53	199	F C Leake	(Mr K Onordla)	53
53	—	(A Ingham)	53	199	It's All Over Now	(Mr I Spence)	53
53	—	—	53	199	Euro Champz	(Mr AJ Howard)	53
53	—	—	53	199	Eurocrats	(Mr A Brankin)	53
53	Yok 2	(J Brook)	53	199	Funkastico	(Mr R Frank)	53
53	Scots X I	(R Tierney)	53	199	Irving's Icons	(Mr ID Irving)	53
53	Elite Squad 5	(A Oayam-Shakoor)	53	199	Euro Heroes	(Mr G Bieupoke)	53
53	Gezza Select	(Mr G Anderson)	53	199	Bedford Italians	(Mr G Gerrac)	53
53	Caught In Lisbon	(Mr D Spurr)	53	199	Lammington United	(A Reymonds)	53
53	Dambusters I I	(Mr S Helm)	53	199	Rosa House United	(Mr A Olsen)	53
53	Smiley's People	(Mr J Eames)	53	199	B P R All Stars	(Mr S Reymide)	53
53	Terrys Turnips	(Mr C Gee)	53	199	Real Waterside	(B Robinson)	53
53	Up For Grab 2	(D Patel)	53	199	Quattro	(Mr I Matthews)	53
53	Overinweekok	(Mr AN Burge)	53	199	Pogab 1	(TJ Barwick)	53
53	A C Dawson	(Mr R Codd)	53	199	Craig Brown-Who?	(Mr L Sawley)	53
53	Intitwint	(Mr P Olivani)	53	199	Kerem F C	(Mrs Z Goral)	53
53	1 Lob	(Mr P Johnson)	53	199	Foots X I	(Mr P Turnstall)	53
53	Russia For Sure	(Mr DJ Bailey)	53	199	The European Sons	(Mr S Knapper)	53
53	Morgen Wanderers	(Mr P Geraghty)	53	199	Old Times Great	(R Rowden)	53
53	Aber Alisters	(Mr D Edwards)	53	199	Unintended Eleven	(Mr J Williams)	53
53	Euro Elite	(Mr W Morris)	53	199	Pavel's Patriots	(Mr J Conroy)	53
53	Queenswood United	(Mr D Kitchiner)	53	199	Elite Squad 1 Ltd	(Mr J Sparks)	53
53	Two Halves United	(J Benton)	53	199	Moncaster Rovers	(Mr I Williams)	53
53	Hodgers Dozen	(D Scott)	53	199	Bernard Pie	(Mr PA Lovatt)	53
53	Grove Team 5	(S Bheribar)	53	199	Euro Scaptics Ltd	(Mr H West)	53
53	Midland Patriots	(M Harris)	53	199	Gezza Playground	(M Pickering)	53
53	Party Animals	(R Zonneveld)	53	199	Targoes	(Mr JJ Robins)	53
53	Dean Davis	(Mr P Tiley)	53	199	Knight's King Be-		53
53	Long Euro Elite	(Mr I Thomas)	53	199			53

Check your players' points in Euro Interactive Team Football

GOALKEEPERS

Code	Name	(Country, club)	Wk Cum
10101	Borislav Mihailov	(Bulgaria, Reading)	+5 +4
10102	Dimitar Popov	(Bulgaria, CSKA)	+0 +0
10103	Zdravko Zdravkov	(Bulgaria, Slavia Sofia)	+0 +0
10201	Tonel Gabric	(Croatia, Hajduk Split)	+0 +0
10202	Drazen Ladic	(Croatia, Croatia, Zagreb)	+5 +10
10203	Marijan Mirmic	(Croatia, Varteks Varazdin)	+0 +0
10301	Ludek Mikosko	(Cz Rep, Sparta Prague)	-1 -4
10302	Pavel Smicek	(Cz Rep, West Ham United)	+0 +0
10303	Ladislav Majer	(Cz Rep, Newcastle United)	+0 +0
10401	Lars Hoegh	(Denmark, Odense)	+0 +0
10402	Mogens Krogh	(Denmark, Brondby)	+0 +0
10403	Peter Schmeichel	(Denmark, Manchester United)	-5 -7
10501	Tim Flowers	(England, Blackburn Rovers)	+0 +0
10502	David Sisman	(England, Arsenal)	+5 +4
10503	Ian Walker	(England, Tottenham Hotspur)	+0 +0
10601	Fabien Barthez	(France, Monaco)	+0 +0
10602	Bernard Lama	(France, Paris Saint-Germain)	-1 -4
10603	Bruno Martini	(France, Montpellier)	+0 +0
10701	Oliver Kahn	(Germany, Bayern Munich)	+0 +0
10702	Stefan Klos	(Germany, Borussia Dortmund)	+0 +0
10703	Andreas Kopke	(Germany, Eintracht Frankfurt)	+5 +10
10704	Oliver Reck	(Germany, Werder Bremen)	+0 +0
10801	Ed de Gooijer	(Holland, Ajax)	+0 +0
10802	Edwin van der Sar	(Holland, Roda JC)	+5 +10
10803	Rued Hesp	(Holland, FC Utrecht)	+0 +0
10901	Luca Bucci	(Italy, Parma)	+0 +0
10902	Angelo Peruzzi	(Italy, Juventus)	-3 -4
10903	Francesco Toldi	(Italy, Fiorentina)	+0 +0
11001	Vitor Bala	(Portugal, Porto)	+5 +4
11002	Alfredo Castro	(Portugal, Boavista)	+0 +0
11003	Rui Correia	(Portugal, Braga)	+0 +0
11004	Paulo Costa	(Portugal, Sporting Lisbon)	+0 +0
11101	Florin Alexandru Tene	(Romania, Rapid Bucharest)	+0 +0
11102	Florin Prunea	(Romania, Dinamo Bucharest)	+0 +0
11103	Bogdan Stilea	(Romania, Steaua Bucharest)	-1 -2
11201	Stanislav Chernesov	(Russia, FC Tyrol)	+0 -3
11202	Dmitri Kharine	(Russia, Chelsea)	-5 -5
11203	Sergei Ovchinnikov	(Russia, Lokomotiv Moscow)	+0 +0
11301	Andy Goram	(Scotland, Rangers)	-3 -2
11302	Jim Leighton	(Scotland, Hibernian)	+0 +0
11303	Nicky Walker	(Scotland, Partick Thistle)	+0 +0
11401	Andoni Zubizarreta	(Spain, Valencia)	-1 -2
11402	Santiago Canizares	(Spain, Real Madrid)	+0 +0
11403	Jose Molina	(Spain, Atlético Madrid)	+0 +0
11501	Stephane Lehmann	(Switzerland, Sion)	+0 +0
11502	Marco Pascolo	(Switzerland, Servette)	-3 -4
11503	Joscel Zuberbühler	(Switzerland, Grasshopper)	+0 +0
11504	Joel Corninboeur	(Switzerland, Neuchâtel)	+0 +0
11601	Yusef Moutaouakil	(Tunisia, Fenerbahce)	+0 +0
11602	Ruslan Rached	(Turkey, Fenerbahce)	-1 -2
11603	Erkan Arman	(Turkey, Ankaragücüspor)	+0 +0
11604	Goymen Sanver	(Turkey, Altayspor)	+0 +0

FULL BACKS

20131	Ilan Kiryakov	(Bulgaria, Anorthosis)	+0 +1
20132	Radoslin Kishishev	(Bulgaria, N Bourgas — RS)	+3 +1
20133	Emil Kremenliev	(Bulgaria, Olympiakos)	+0 +0
20134	Tzanko Tsvetanov	(Bulgaria, Waldhof Mannheim)	+4 +2
20231	Elia Brajkovic	(Croatia, Bayern Munich)	+0 +0
20232	Nikola Jurcovic	(Croatia, Real Betis)	+0 +0
20233	Nikola Jurcovic	(Croatia, Freiburg)	+0 +0
20234	Dario Simic	(Croatia, FC Croatia)	+0 +0
20331	Radoslav Latal	(Cz Rep, Schalke 04)	-2 -5
20332	Jiri Lerch	(Cz Rep, Slavia Prague)	+0 +0
20333	Tomas Repka	(Cz Rep, Sparta Prague)	-2 -5
20334	Jan Suchoparek	(Cz Rep, Slavia Prague)	+0 +0
20335	Martin Kotulec	(Cz Rep, Sigma Olomouc)	+0 +0
20431	Thomas Helveg	(Denmark, Udinese)	+1 -1
20432	Jacob Laursen	(Denmark, Silkeborg — RS)	-5 -5
20433	Torben Piechlik	(Denmark, Aarhus)	+0 +0
20434	Jens Rillasager	(Denmark, Brondby)	+0 +0
20531	Rob Jones	(England, Liverpool)	+0 +0
20532	Gary Neville	(England, Manchester United — RS)	+4 +2
20533	Philip Neville	(England, Manchester United)	+0 +0
20534	Stuart Pearce	(England, Nottingham Forest)	+1 -1
20535	Sol Campbell	(England, Tottenham)	+0 +0
20631	Jocelyn Angloma	(France, Torino)	+1 +1
20632	Elio Di Meo	(France, Monaco)	+0 +0
20633	Bixente Lizarazu	(France, Bordeaux)	-1 -1
20634	Lilian Thuram	(France, Monaco)	+2 +2
20731	Stefan Reuter	(Germany, Borussia Dortmund)	+4 +7
20732	Rene Schneider	(Germany, Rostock)	+0 +0
20831	Frank de Boer	(Holland, Ajax)	+0 +0
20832	Winston Bogarde	(Holland, Ajax)	+4 +8
20833	Michael Reiziger	(Holland, Ajax)	+4 +8
20931	Luigi Apolloni	(Italy, Parma)	-5 -6
20932	Amedeo Carboni	(Italy, Roma)	+1 +1
20933	Paolo Maldini	(Italy, AC Milan)	-3 -4
20934	Roberto Mussi	(Italy, Parma)	-3 -4
21031	Fernando Nelo	(Portugal, Sporting Lisbon)	+0 +0
21032	Paulinho Santos	(Portugal, Porto)	+3 +1
21033	Carlos Seca	(Portugal, Porto)	+0 +0
21034	José Tavares	(Portugal, Boavista)	+0 +0
21035	Dimas Tebeira	(Portugal, Benfica)	+4 +3
21131	Corneliu Papura	(Romania, Universitatea Craiova)	+0 +0
21132	Dan Petrescu	(Romania, Chelsea)	-1 -2
21133	Tibor Selymes	(Romania, Cercle Brugge)	-1 -3
21231	Rami Kuvit	(Russia, Dynamo Moscow)	+0 +0
21232	Yuriz Mamedov	(Russia, Spartak Moscow)	+0 +0
21233	Sergei Gorkhovich	(Russia, Spartak Moscow)	+0 +0
21331	Tommy Boyd	(Scotland, Celtic)	-3 +0
21332	Craig Burley	(Scotland, Celtic)	+0 +0
21333	Stewart McMillie	(Scotland, Aberdeen)	-3 +1
21334	Brian O'Neill	(Scotland, Celtic)	+0 +0
21335	Tosh McKinlay	(Scotland, Celtic)	-3 -3
21431	Sergi Barjuan	(Spain, Barcelona)	+1 -4
21432	Alberto Belsue	(Spain, Real Zaragoza)	+0 +0
21433	Albert Ferrer	(Spain, Barcelona)	+0 +0
21434	Jorge Otero	(Spain, Valencia)	-2 -2
21531	J. M. Lopez Martinez	(Spain, Atlético Madrid)	-1 -1
21532	Marc Hotzger	(Switzerland, Everton)	-3 -3
21533	Yvan Quentin	(Switzerland, Sion)	-3 -5
21534	Sebastian Jeanneret	(Switzerland, Neuchâtel)	-2 -3
21535	Raphael Wicky	(Switzerland, Sion)	+0 +0
21631	Recep Cetin	(Turkey, Besiktas)	-1 -1
21632	Inceefe Vedat	(Turkey, DC Karabukspor)	-2 -3

CENTRAL DEFENDERS

30131	Krasimir Chomakov	(Bulgaria, Maritsa Plovdiv)	+0 +0
30132	Valentin Dardilov	(Bulgaria, Levski Sofia)	+0 +0
30133	Gosho Gulichev	(Bulgaria, Denizlispor)	+0 +0
30134	Petar Huchev	(Bulgaria, Hamburg)	+0 +0
30135	Trifon Ivanov	(Bulgaria, Rapid Vienna)	+0 +0
30231	Slaven Bilic	(Croatia, West Ham United)	+4 +8
30232	Nikola Jerkan	(Croatia, Real Oviedo)	+4 +8
30233	Dubravko Pavlicic	(Croatia, Hercules)	+0 +0
30234	Zvonimir Soldo	(Croatia, Croatia Zagreb)	+0 -1
30235	Igor Stamen	(Croatia, Derby County)	+4 +8
30331	Michael Hornak	(Cz Rep, Sparta Prague)	-1 -4
30332	Miroslav Kadlec	(Cz Rep, Kaiserslautern)	-2 -6
30333	Lubos Kubik	(Cz Rep, Petra Dmrovice)	+0 +0
30334	Karel Rada	(Cz Rep, Sigma Olomouc)	-5 -6
30431	Jes Hoegh	(Denmark, Fenerbahce)	+0 +0
30432	Lars Olsen	(Denmark, Brondby)	+0 +0
30433	Marc Rieper	(England, Arsenal)	+3 +1
30531	Tony Adams	(England, Manchester United)	+0 +0
30532	Gary Pallister	(England, Aston Villa)	+4 +3
30533	Gareth Southgate	(England, Newcastle United)	+0 +0
30534	Steve Hovew	(France, Auxerre)	-2 +2
30631	Laurent Blanc	(France, AC Milan)	+0 +0
30632	Marcel Desailly	(France, Strasbourg)	+0 +0
30633	Frank LeBoeuf	(France, Paris Saint-Germain)	-2 -2
30634	Alain Roche	(Germany, Bayern Munich)	+3 +6
30731	Markus Babbel	(Germany, Bayern Munich)	+0 +0
30732	Thomas Helmer	(Germany, Borussia Dortmund)	+0 +0
30733	Jürgen Kohler	(Germany, Borussia Dortmund)	+7 +11
30734	Matthias Sammer	(Germany, Borussia Dortmund)	+4 +4
30831	Danny Blind	(Holland, Ajax)	+1 +5
30832	Johan de Kock	(Holland, PSV Eindhoven)	+0 +0
30833	Stan Valcic	(Holland, Sparta Rotterdam)	+0 +0
30834	John Veldman	(Italy, AC Milan)	-3 -4
30931	Alessandro Costacurta	(Italy, Juventus)	+0 +0
30932	Ciro Ferrara	(Italy, Juventus)	+0 +0
30933	Moreno Torricelli	(Italy, Lazio)	+0 +0
30934	Alessandro Nesta	(Portugal, Parma)	+7 +6
31031	Fernando Couto	(Portugal, Benfica)	+4 +3
31032	Heider Cristovao	(Portugal, Belenenses)	+0 +0
31033	Paulo Madeira	(Portugal, Boavista)	+0 +0
31034	Carlos Magalhães	(Portugal, Belenenses)	+0 +0
31035	Fernando Mendes	(Romania, Steaua Bucharest)	+0 +0
31131	Anton Dobos	(Romania, Gungamp)	-1 -2
31132	Gheorghe Mihali	(Romania, Barcelona)	-1 -2
31133	Gheorghe Popescu	(Romania, Steaua Bucharest)	-1 -2
31134	Daniel Prodan	(Romania, Villarreal)	-1 -2
31135	Miodrag Belodedici	(Russia, CSKA Moscow)	+0 -1
31231	Yevgeny Bushmanov	(Russia, CSKA Moscow)	+0 -1



Gascoigne leaves the pitch at Wembley celebrating Euro 96 success, are you?

31232	Yuri Nikiforov	(Russia, Spartak Moscow)	-5 -5
31233	Omar Tetradez	(Russia, Alania Vladikavkaz)	-5 -8
31331	Colin Calderwood	(Scotland, Tottenham Hotspur)	-3 -1
31332	Colin Hendry	(Scotland, Blackburn Rovers)	+0 +0
31333	Alan McLaren	(Scotland, Rangers)	+0 +0
31334	Derek Whyte	(Scotland, Middlesbrough)	+0 +0
31431	Rafael Alkorta	(Spain, Real Madrid)	-1 -2
31432	Abelardo Fernandez	(Spain, Barcelona)	-1 -3
31433	Fernando Hierro	(Spain, Real Madrid)	+0 +0
31434	Miguel Angel Nadal	(Switzerland, Grasshopper)	+0 -2
31531	Alain Geiger	(Switzerland, Hamburg)	-3 -4
31532	Stephane Henchoz	(Switzerland, Sion)	+0 +0
31533	Dominique Herr	(Switzerland, Grasshopper)	-3 -5
31534	Roman Vega	(Switzerland, Neuchâtel)	+0 +0
31535	Regis Rotherbühler	(Turkey, Besiktas)	+0 +0
31631	Alpay Ozal	(Turkey, Galatasaray)	-1 -2
31632	Bulent Korkmaz	(Turkey, Trabzonspor)	+0 +0
31633	Ogun Temizkanlioglu	(Turkey, Trabzonspor)	+1 +1
31634	Ozkoylu Osman	(Turkey, Trabzonspor)	+0 +0

MIDFIELD PLAYERS

40141	Krasimir Balakov	(Bulgaria, VfB Stuttgart)	+2 +3
40142	Daniel Bormirov	(Bulgaria, Munich 1860)	+0 +0
40143	Borcho Guechev	(Bulgaria, Luton Town)	+0 +0
40144	Jordan Lechkov	(Bulgaria, Hamburg)	+2 +3
40145	Zlatko Yankov	(Bulgaria, Bayer Uerdingen)	+2 +2
40146	Vasyo Yordanov	(Bulgaria, Sporting Lisbon)	+2 +2
40147	Georgi Donkov	(Bulgaria, CSKA Sofia)	+0 +0
40241	Aljosa Asanovic	(Croatia, Derby County)	+2 +3
40242	Zvonimir Boban	(Croatia, AC Milan)	+4 +4
40243	Mladen Mladenovic	(Croatia, Salzburg)	+0 +0
40244	Nenad Pralija	(Croatia, Hajduk Split)	+0 +0
40245	Robert Prosinecki	(Croatia, Barcelona)	+1 +3
40246	Mario Stanic	(Croatia, FC Bruges — RS)	+1 +3
40341	Patrick Berger	(Cz Rep, B Druzes — RS)	+0 +0
40342	Michael Bilek	(Cz Rep, Viktoria Zizkov)	+0 +0
40343	Martin Frydek	(Cz Rep, Sparta Prague)	+0 +1
40344	Pavel Hapal	(Cz Rep, Tenerife)	+0 +0
40345	Pavel Nedved	(Cz Rep, Sparta Prague)	+3 +3
40346	Jiri Necas	(Cz Rep, Schalke 04)	+1 +2
40347	Vaclav Nemecsek	(Cz Rep, Servette)	+0 +0
40348	Karel Poborsky	(Cz Rep, Slavia Prague)	+0 +0
40349	Radek Bejbi	(Cz Rep, Slavia Prague)	+0 +0
40350	Michal Novotny	(Cz Rep, Slavia Prague)	+0 +0
40441	Michael Laudrup	(Denmark, Real Madrid)	+1 +2
40442	Allan Nielsen	(Denmark, Brondby)	+0 +0
40443	Peter Nielsen	(Denmark, B M Gladbach)	+0 +0
40444	Brian Steen Nielsen	(Denmark, Odense)	+1 +2
40445	Michael Scholtenberg	(Denmark, Odense)	+1 +2
40446	Claus Thomsen	(Denmark, Ipswich Town)	+1 +1
40447	Kim Vilfort	(Denmark, Lyngby)	+1 +2
40448	Henrik Larsen	(Denmark, Aarhus)	+1 +2
40449	Steffen	(Denmark, Tottenham Hotspur)	+2 +3
40541	Darren Anderson	(England, Rangers)	+4 +6
40542	Paul Gascoigne	(England, Internazionale)	+0 +2
40543	Robert Lee	(England, Newcastle United)	+2 +3
40544	Steve McNamara	(England, Arsenal)	+0 +0
40545	Steve Platt	(England, Nottingham Forest)	+0 +0
40546	Steve Stone	(England, Liverpool)	+0 +0
40547	Dennis Wise	(England, Chelsea)	+0 +0
40548	Janne Redknapp	(England, Liverpool)	+0 +0
40549	Dilger Deschamps	(France, Juventus)	+1 +1
40550	Vicent Guerin	(France, Paris Saint-Germain)	+2 +2
40551	Christian Karembeu	(France, Sampdoria)	+0 +0
40552	Sabri Lamouchi	(France, Auxerre)	+0 +0
40553	Corentin Marthys	(France, Auxerre)	+0 +0
40554	Zinedine Zidane	(France, Bordeaux — RS)	+1 +3
40555	Mario Basler	(Germany, Werder Bremen)	+0 +0
40556	Marco Bode	(Germany, Werder Bremen)	+0 +0
40557	Dieter Elts	(Germany, Werder Bremen)	+0 +0
40558	Steffen Freund	(Germany, Borussia Dortmund)	+0 +0
40559	Thomas Hässler	(Germany, Karlsruhe)	+1 +2
40560	Andy Möller	(Germany, Borussia Dortmund)	+2 +2
40561	Wolfgang Scholl	(Germany, Bayern Munich — RS)	+0 +0
40562	Thomas Strunz	(Germany, Bayern Munich)	+0 +0
40563	Christian Ziege	(Germany, Bayern Munich)	+2 +5
40564	Edgar Davids	(Holland, Ajax — RS)	+1 +1
40565	Ronald de Boer	(Holland, Ajax)	+0 +0
40566	Wim Jonk	(Holland, PSV Eindhoven)	+0 +0
40567	Clarence Seedorf	(Holland, Sampdoria)	-1 -1
40568	Aron Winter	(Holland, Lazio)	+2 +2
40569	Philip Cocu	(Holland, PSV Eindhoven)	+0 +0
40570	Demetrio Albertini	(Italy, AC Milan)	+1 +1
40571	Dino Baggio	(Italy, Parma)	+0 +0
40572	Antonio Conte	(Italy, Juventus)	+0 +0
40573	Alessandro Del Piero	(Italy, Juventus)	+0 +1
40574	Angelo Di Livio	(Italy, Juventus)	+0 +1
40575	Roberto Di Matteo	(Italy, AC Milan)	+1 +1
40576	Roberto Donadoni	(Italy, Lazio)	+0 +0
40577	Diego Fuser	(Italy, Udinese)	+0 +0
40578	Paulo Bento	(Portugal, Guimaraes)	+0 +0
40579	Nuno Capucho	(Portugal, Fiorentina)	+2 +3
40580	Rui Costa	(Portugal, Sporting Lisbon)	+0 -1
40581	Oscar Cruz	(Portugal, Barcelona)	+1 +2
40582	Luís Figo	(Portugal, SC Vitoria)	+0 +0
40583	Vitor Pereira	(Portugal, Sporting Lisbon)	+1 +3
40584	Sa Pinto	(Portugal, Juventus)	+2 +2
40585	Paulo Sousa	(Romania, S Bucharest — RS)	+0 +0
40586	Iolan Filipescu	(Romania, Bayer Leverkusen)	+1 +2
40587	Ioan Angelo Lupescu	(Romania, Dinamo Bucharest)	+0 +0
40588	Dorinel Munteanu	(Romania, Cologne)	+1 +2

41145	Horia Radu Niculescu	(Romania, National Bucharest)	+0	+0
41146	Nica Basarab Panduru	(Romania, Benfica)	+0	+0
41147	Ioan Sabau	(Romania, Brescia)	+0	+0
41148	Ovidiu Stinga	(Romania, Salamanca)	+0	+0
41241	Andrei Kanchelskis	(Russia, Everton)	+1	+2
41242	Valery Karpin	(Russia, Real Sociedad)	+1	+2
41243	Alexander Mostovoi	(Russia, Strasbourg)	+1	+2
41244	Viktor Onopko	(Russia, Oviedo)	+0	+0
41245	Andrei Platinitski	(Russia, Spartak Moscow)	+0	+0
41246	Vladislav Radimov	(Russia, CSKA Moscow)	+1	+2
41247	Igor Shalimov	(Russia, Udinese)	+0	+0
41248	Ilya Tsybalar	(Russia, Spartak Moscow)	+1	+4
41249	Dmitry Khokhlov	(Russia, CSKA Moscow)	+1	+1
41250	Igor Vozneskiy	(Russia, Alanya Vladikavkaz)	+0	+1
41341	John Collins	(Scotland, Celtic)	+0	+2
41342	Scott Gemmill	(Scotland, Nottingham Forest)	+0	+0
41343	Gary McAllister	(Scotland, Leeds United)	+0	+2
41344	Stuart McCall	(Scotland, Rangers)	+1	+3
41345	Billy McKinnay	(Scotland, Blackburn Rovers)	+0	+0
41346	Pat Nevin	(Scotland, Tranmere Rovers)	+0	+0
41441	Jose Luis Camello	(Spain, Atletico Madrid)	+3	+3
41442	Domingo Serna de Silva	(Spain, Deportivo Coruna)	+0	+0
41443	José Andoni Goikoetxea	(Spain, Athletic Bilbao)	+0	+0
41444	Josep Guardiola	(Spain, Barcelona)	+0	+0
41445	Julen Guerrero	(Spain, Athletic Bilbao)	+0	+1
41446	Luis Enrique Martinez	(Spain, Real Madrid)	+0	+1
41447	Guillermo Amor	(Spain, Barcelona)	+0	+0
41448	Jose Emilio Amavisca	(Spain, Real Madrid)	+0	+0
41541	Thomas Bickel	(Switzerland, Vissel Kobe)	+0	+0
41542	Christophe Bournin	(Switzerland, Sion)	+0	+1
41543	Sebastien Fournier	(Switzerland, Sion)	+0	+0
41544	Marcel Koller	(Switzerland, Grasshopper)	+0	+0
41545	Christophe Ohrel	(Switzerland, St Etienne)	+0	+0
41546	Stefan Siorza	(Switzerland, Bayern Munich)	+1	+2
41547	Alain Sutter	(Switzerland, Freiburg)	+0	+0
41548	Johan Vogel	(Switzerland, Grasshopper — RS)	+1	+2
41549	Murat Yakin	(Switzerland, Grasshopper)	+0	+0
41550	Alexander Comisetti	(Switzerland, Grasshopper)	+0	+0
41641	Oguz Catir	(Turkey, Fenerbahce)	+0	+1
41642	Abdullah Ercan	(Turkey, Trabzonspor)	+0	+1
41643	Tolunay Kafkas	(Turkey, Trabzonspor)	-1	-1
41644	Tugay Karimoglu	(Turkey, Galatasaray)	+1	+2
41645	Keskın Gokhan	(Turkey, Besiktas)	+0	+0
41646	Tayfun Korkut	(Turkey, Fenerbahce)	+0	+0
41647	Fergan Yalcin	(Turkey, Besiktas — RS)	+0	+2
41648	Yakup Sahin	(Turkey, Genclerbirligi)	+0	+1
41649	Yigit Sanku	(Turkey, Kocaelispor)	+0	+0

EURO 96

DAILY TEAM-BY-TEAM GUIDE

GROUP A

ENGLAND

Jamie Redknapp cut a forlorn figure sitting by the touchline at Bisham Abbey yesterday. The Liverpool midfielder, who made such a big impact in the second half against Scotland, had his heavily-bandaged right foot propped up on a chair, resting the ankle ligaments he strained in a fall five minutes from the end of the match. His Liverpool team-mate, Steve McManaman, kept his spirits up by hanging a training shoe from his toes and accusing him of posing for photographers. The journalists are getting slightly restless with the choice of interviewees selected for them. Invariably, it is David Seaman, David Platt, Alan Shearer, Tony Adams or Gareth Southgate. The problem: they are all too diplomatic.

CAUTIONS: Adams, G. Neville, Ince, Shearer OH

GROUP B

SPAIN

Spain believe that a 2-2 draw between France and Bulgaria today will eject them from the tournament and are concerned that those countries will be thinking along the same lines. Just how a 2-2 draw can be arrived at convincingly is a moot point. The Spanish media are quoting Johan Cruyff, of all people, as saying that the France-Bulgaria game will end in a pre-determined draw and have even raised the subject with Javier Clemente, the Spain coach. He is a little more relaxed on the subject. "Cruyff obviously knows more about this than I do because he earns more than me," he joked.

CAUTIONS: Caminero, Sergi, Amor, Abalo, Luis Enrique, Amavisca, Otero

DISMISSAL: Pizzi DM

GROUP C

GERMANY

Germany's relationship with Macclesfield Town is beginning to take off after the initial coolness between them. The squad returned to Macclesfield yesterday for a gentle training session which had only been arranged after the game on Sunday. Macclesfield began watering the pitch at 6am yesterday and afterwards the German squad queued up to say what a good condition the pitch was in. Notoriously, England players like lager; the German weakness is for cakes. First Thomas Hässler was given one to celebrate his 75th cap; at the weekend the reserve goalkeeper, Oliver Kahn, received one to celebrate his 27th birthday.

CAUTIONS: Babel (2), Reuter, Hässler, Möller, Kuntz, Ziege, Bierhoff

DISMISSAL: PB

GROUP D

DENMARK

Long faces in the Danish camp. Although it is still possible for them to qualify for the quarter-finals, they do not think it is going to happen. A glum Michael Laudrup, who celebrated his 32nd birthday at the weekend, said the team would still throw themselves into their final match against Turkey tomorrow. "It is better to go home in third place with four points than fourth place with one point," he said. Schmeichel disputes that he fouled Stanic and maintains that the penalty which gave Croatia the lead in the 52nd minute turned the match. Denmark, he said, simply could not change their tactics which, given that they began to make defensive errors, allowed Croatia to punish them further.

CAUTIONS: Risager, Hølvang

DISMISSAL: AR

GROUP A

SWITZERLAND

Switzerland need to beat Scotland, comprehensively, at Villa Park this evening, and hope for further statistical salvation from Wembley, to progress into the last eight. Artur Jorge, the Switzerland coach, is likely to replace Marco Grassi, who is suspended, with Christophe Bernini, and is still optimistic. "We are in the same situation as Scotland and I'm sure we are thinking the same way," he said. "I think it's possible that we can win 3-0 and we must be positive. For the players, it will probably be the most important day of their lives." After hearing the result between England and Holland, possibly one of their most depressing, too.

CAUTIONS: Grassi (2), Vogel, Quentin, Vega, Jeanneret, Chapuisat, Türkyilmaz

DISMISSAL: RK

GROUP B

BULGARIA

Boris Myhalov, the Reading goalkeeper, will become Bulgaria's most capped player when he leads the team out against France today. His 97th appearance for his country. Myhalov has an even more intriguing milestone on the horizon — his 100th cap. That could be in the final at Wembley, if things go well. Before then, it seems likely that Bulgaria will face England in the quarter-finals, if they avoid defeat against France, in yearning for that particular contest. Myhalov revealed his true thoughts on English football. "We must play either England or Holland in the quarter-final, and so I would be very happy to meet the English," he said.

CAUTIONS: Kachichev (2), Tzatanov (2), Stoichkov

DISMISSAL: Hubshev DM

GROUP C

CZECH REPUBLIC

Ludek Mikosko, the West Ham goalkeeper, hops into the Czech camp from time to time to meet his compatriots and assess their frame of mind. He said yesterday that the team are confident of beating Russia tomorrow. Uhrlin, the Czech coach, appears to have sussed the Russians. "The Russians are a very good team but very moody. When they concede a goal they disintegrate," he said. Uhrlin will have to decide who replaces the experienced sweeper, Kadlec, who misses the game through suspension. Kubik could be called into the team and Suchoparek moved into the central position. There are question marks against Latai and Nemec who are suffering cramp and thigh strain respectively.

CAUTIONS: Kadlec, Drulak, Bejbi, Nedved

DISMISSAL: AR

GROUP D

PORTUGAL

After beating Turkey, Portugal had relaxing public training sessions on Saturday and Sunday before they got back to serious business yesterday with two closed sessions. The open training on Saturday proved exceptionally popular, even without most of the team who had played against Turkey. "The spectators seemed very happy and applauded a lot," Joseph Wilson, the team press officer, said. Sunday's session was less happy, though, as Luis Figo was carried out of a six-a-side match at Ilkeston with an ankle injury. Figo hopes to be fit for the meeting with Croatia tomorrow but he will be checked by the team doctor this morning.

CAUTIONS: Paulinho Santos (2), Oceano, Sa Pinto, João Pinto, Paulo Sousa, Figo, Tavares

DISMISSAL: PB

GROUP A

HOLLAND

Holland's supporters have been desperately seeking admission to the Group A decider against England at Wembley tonight, so much so that the switchboard of the team hotel at Sopwell House, Hertfordshire, has almost expired on several occasions. "It is crazy," Herman Poo, a spokesman for the Dutch Football Association, said. "Everybody wants to get hold of tickets and we have been inundated with phone calls from supporters. We don't have any left at all, we really don't. The players get just a few for their families, but that's it." Many followers of the orange have also been turning up at Sopwell to pass on their best wishes to the team by signing a huge board in reception.

CAUTIONS: Witschge, Taarant, Seedorf

DISMISSAL: RK

GROUP B

ROMANIA

Richard who? The seven Romania internationals signed up to play in the Richard Ord testimonial match at Roker Park next month could be forgiven for wondering just whose bank balance they are poised to bolster. Ord is a once-hapless left back turned promising centre half who has spent the decade since leaving school at Sunderland. His loyalty bonus is a match against Steaua Bucharest, featuring seven Euro 96 participants. While most Sunderland supporters welcome the fixture, others argue that the Romania ensemble lack a sufficiently glamorous aura. How arrogant. And how ironic that Newcastle wine shops have been bedecked with the red and white wines of Romania.

CAUTIONS: Mihail, Selmes, Iile

DISMISSAL: LT

GROUP C

ITALY

Alessandro Nesta, only 19 and yet to play for his country at senior level, could be called upon by Sacchi to replace Apolloni, who misses the clash with Germany tomorrow after his dismissal against the Czechs. Nesta was part of the Italy side that won the under-21 tournament three weeks ago. He scored from a penalty and, when asked what was the more frightening, taking a spot kick in a penalty shoot-out or facing Klinsmann, Nesta decided on Klinsmann. That ought to swing selection in his favour. Sacchi needs all the realists he can muster when the talk at their training camp is how Italy could lose at Old Trafford and still qualify.

CAUTIONS: Albertini, Donadoni, Fuser

DISMISSAL: Apolloni AR

GROUP D

TURKEY

Turkey will return home after their final Group D fixture against Denmark at Hillsborough tomorrow but Abdullah Ercan, the Trabzonspor wing back, may stay on. Abdullah, 24, has made an eye-catching contribution to Turkey's Euro 96 campaign, and not simply because of his unusually fair hair. He is hoping to have caught the attention, too, of scouts from the FA Carling Premiership who may have been watching Turkey's matches. "Even though the team has not been that successful, we have proved a lot to get this far," he said. "Perhaps we have gained much interest from foreign clubs. If an English team wanted to talk to me, I would say, 'Yes, of course'."

CAUTIONS: Tolunay (2), Abdullah, Vedat, Rahim

DISMISSAL: RK

GROUP A

SCOTLAND

Eoin Jess grew up with Scott Booth in the Aberdeen team, but at the beginning of this year he joined Coventry City for £2 million. Yesterday, Booth joked that there has been an estrangement between them. "He's got too much money now," Booth said. Jess remained silent, but a smile danced around his lips. Wealth, however, is not always enough. Ally McCoist is still seeking a goal in the finals of a major tournament after seven appearances for Scotland — three of them as substitute — in the 1990 World Cup and the European championships of 1992 and 1996. At the age of 33, the match against Switzerland tonight could well be his last opportunity.

CAUTIONS: Boyd, Gallacher, Collins, Spencer, Hendry

DISMISSAL: KM

GROUP B

FRANCE

Christophe Dugarry will return to the starting line-up this evening, as Aimé Jacquet, the manager, acknowledges his mistake in resting the soon-to-be-Milan forward against Spain. It is news that will delight the readers of Dugarry's newspaper column syndicated back home. In it, he takes time out to bring to the attention of his readers a topic he can barely comprehend — the lager-fuelled antics of the English players. The response of the man whom English clubs coveted before he chose Italy? "It is incredible. I simply can not believe that the England players were in a nightclub. You do these sort of things afterwards, on your holidays." And England's chances of winning? "Not very high."

CAUTIONS: Di Meo, Blanc, Karembeu, Djorkaeff

DISMISSAL: DM

GROUP C

RUSSIA

After the humiliating defeat by Germany on Sunday, Gieg Romansev, the Russia coach, was highly critical of his team. "The only players that did well were those on the bench," he said. "Some looked bad; some looked very bad." Yesterday the squad tried credit-card therapy. "They have taken the day off and are planning a shopping spree in Wigan," a spokesman said. It might work. Croatia for one looks as if he needs a holiday, never mind a day off. That is hardly surprising, though. With the Russian season running through the summer, his move to Spain in December meant that he has not had a break for two years.

CAUTIONS: Orlopko (2), Kalyanov

DISMISSAL: Kovtun PB

GROUP D

CROATIA

Now that the world has awoken to the fact that Croatia can play a bit, their previously sedate press conferences have taken on a much more frantic note. It did little to assist order yesterday when a Croatian folk dance troupe turned up and enlisted Blazevic, the Croatia coach, in a soulful Singalonga Miroslav routine. However, it was not all fun and games, with Nikola Jerkan, the defender, nursing a broken and dislocated nose, sustained during the stunning 3-0 victory over Denmark at Hillsborough on Sunday night. Also, the Croatian Football Association has protested to the Euro 96 organisers that the playing of its national anthem has been one verse short of a full song.

CAUTIONS: Asanovic, Boban, Soldo, Stanic, Prosinecki, Vavric

DISMISSAL: RK

REPORTS: Oliver Holt, Kevin McCarra, Peter Ball, Russell Kempson, Alyson Rudd, David Maddock and Louise Taylor

MATCH-BY-MATCH GUIDE

GROUP A

England 1 Switzerland 1
Shearer (23) Türkyilmaz (83 pen)
(Wembley, attendance 76,567)

Holland 0 Scotland 0
(Villa Park, attendance 34,363)

Switzerland 0 Holland 2
Cruyff (65) Bergkamp (78)
(Villa Park, attendance 38,900)

England 2 Scotland 0
Shearer (53) Gascoigne (79)
(Wembley, attendance 76,894)

Today
Scotland v Switzerland
(Villa Park, 7.30)

England v Holland
(Wembley, 7.30) ITV

GROUP B

Spain 1 Bulgaria 1
Alfonso (73) Stoichkov (65 pen)
(Eland Road, attendance 26,006)

Romania 0 France 1
Dugarry (24)
(St James' Park, attendance 26,323)

Bulgaria 1 Romania 0
Stoichkov (3)
(St James' Park, attendance 19,107)

France 1 Spain 1
Djorkaeff (48) Caminero (85)
(Eland Road, attendance 35,626)

Today
France v Bulgaria
(St James' Park, 4.30) BBC1

Romania v Spain
(Eland Road, 4.30)

GROUP C

Germany 2 Czech Republic 0
Ziege (25) Möller (31)
(Old Trafford, attendance 37,300)

Italy 2 Russia 1
Casiraghi (5, 52) Teynbalar (20)
(Anfield, attendance 35,120)

Czech Republic 2 Italy 1
Nedved (4) Bejbi (35) Chiesa (18)
(Anfield, attendance 37,320)

Russia 0 Germany 3
Sammer (56) Klinsmann (77, 90)
(Old Trafford, attendance 50,760)

Tomorrow
Italy v Germany
(Old Trafford, 7.30) BBC1

Russia v Czech Republic
(Anfield, 7.30)

GROUP D

Denmark 1 Portugal 1
B Laudrup (21) Sa Pinto (52)
(Hillsborough, attendance 34,993)

Turkey 0 Croatia 1
Vavric (85)
(City Ground, attendance 22,460)

Portugal 1 Turkey 0
Couto (66)
(City Ground, attendance 22,670)

Croatia 3 Denmark 0
Suker (53 pen, 90) Boban (81)
(Hillsborough, attendance 33,671)

Tomorrow
Croatia v Portugal
(City Ground, 4.30) ITV

Turkey v Denmark
(Hillsborough, 4.30)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England	2	1	1	0	3	1	4
Holland	2	1	1	0	2	0	4
Switzerland	2	0	1	1	3	1	1
Scotland	2	0	1	1	0	2	1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bulgaria	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
France	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
Spain	2	0	2	0	2	2	2
Romania	2	0	0	2	0	2	0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Germany	2	2	0	0	6	0	6
Italy	2	1	0	1	3	3	3
Czech Rep	2	1	0	1	2	3	3
Russia	2	0	0	2	1	5	0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Croatia	2	2	0	0	4	0	6
Portugal	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
Denmark	2	0	1	1	1	4	1
Turkey	2	0	0	2	0	2	0

Qualification of teams that finish level on points at the end of the group stage will be determined first by results between the respective teams, then by goal difference, then goals scored, then by a UEFA coefficient of qualifying performances for the 1994 World Cup and the European championship of 1992 and 1996, then by disciplinary records and, as a last resort, by drawing lots.

QUARTER-FINALS

Sat June 22 Winners Group B v Runners-up Group A (Anfield, 6.30) Sat June 22 Runners-up Group B v Winners Group A (Wembley, 3.0)

Sun June 23 Winners Group C v Runners-up Group D (Old Trafford, 3.0) Sun June 23 Runners-up Group C v Winners Group D (Villa Park, 6.30)

SEMI-FINALS

Wed June 26 Villa Park winners v Anfield winners (Old Trafford, 4.0)

Wed June 26 Wembley winners v Old Trafford winners (Wembley, 7.30)

FINAL

Sun June 30 Wembley (7.0) BBC1 and ITV

PREVIOUS WINNERS

1960 USSR
1964 Spain
1968 Italy
1972 West Germany
1976 Czechoslovakia
1980 West Germany
1984 France
1988 Poland
1992 Yugoslavia

RUNNERS-UP

1960 Yugoslavia
1964 USSR
1968 Yugoslavia
1972 USSR
1976 West Germany
1980 Belgium
1984 Spain
1988 USSR
1992 Germany

LATEST BETTING

2-1: Germany
5-1: Holland
5-1: England
6-1: France
6-1: Italy
8-1: Croatia
10-1: Spain

LATEST BETTING

14-1: Portugal
20-1: Bulgaria
40-1: Czech Republic
250-1: Denmark
250-1: Scotland
250-1: Switzerland
500-1: Russia
Odds by Ladbrokes

FOUL PLAY

82 Cautions 24 Dismissals

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FOOTBALL: FORM OF GOALKEEPER AND INFLUENCE OF VENUE CAN COMBINE TO PRODUCE THE EXCEPTIONAL

England seek inspiration the Wembley way

By DAVID MILLER

AVERAGE teams can win championships. Just look at Blackburn Rovers in 1995, Germany in 1990, or, going back a bit, Ipswich Town in 1962. While despairing of Paul Gascoigne's contribution to the team — before and after his mesmerizing goal against Scotland — I have for long upheld the possibility of prosaic England's emergence, and continue to do so.

Their present price of 5-1 is a good bet, even though Germany, the bookmaker's favourite, Portugal, Bulgaria and the Czech Republic have all exhibited, over the first nine days of the European championship, a broader and more cultured approach.

There has been a lot of clever football, but that does

not necessarily win matches, as Romania, Russia and Italy have cause to know. England have not been exceptional, but not as bad, if they stay out of the pub, as they have been painted. Or have painted themselves. Before Terry Venables uses the word "traitors", referring to the press, he should consult the dictionary, and also ask himself more carefully who, a fortnight ago, was undermining whom.

On present form, Germany, with two victories, are widely considered the best side, though both Russia, who ultimately capitulated on Sunday, and the Czech Republic exposed some of Germany's limitations. The key to Germany's performance may prove to be not so much the opportunism of Klinsmann as the subtle variations from the

back given by the perceptive Sammer, their sweeper. The most imaginative play I have seen, in short spells, has come from France. Italy, Holland and Croatia. As England have reason to celebrate, it can be short spells that turn matches. England's against Scotland, lasted about 20 minutes.

It came from the belated introduction of Redknapp, who can pass the ball, and the liberation of McManaman. International teams can take shape impromptu, so infrequently do they play together, but Terry Venables, who strangely had seemed to have lost his vision of the big picture, suddenly found it.

A probable format of the quarter-finals, before results today and tomorrow, is: England v France or Bulgaria at Wembley, Holland v Bulgaria or France at Anfield,



Germany v Portugal at Old Trafford and Croatia v Italy or the Czech Republic at Villa Park. A forecast of the semi-finals, would then be England v Germany and Italy v Holland.

To remain at Wembley, England need to draw or win against Holland tonight, who are having the type of internal argument without which no

Dutch team is complete. The psychological background to an encounter against France or Bulgaria at that venue favours England — outstanding though Djorkaeff may have been with France.

France are traditionally uncomfortable against England at Wembley, where they have never won. As a unit, France look second only to Germany, with Blanc and Desailly authoritative as sweeper and stopper, and the worry would be how Adams, vulnerable on the ground as we have known since 1988, would cope with the pace of Djorkaeff and Loko or Dugarry.

Bulgaria, who half-heartedly drew in a recent match at Wembley, were fortunate that Romania were denied a legitimate goal. True, they have Stoichkov, but they are not the team that beat

Germany two years ago to reach the World Cup semi-finals.

So an England-Germany semi-final is not just wishful thinking but an even bet for a team playing at home with, thankfully, a goalkeeper in supreme form. McManaman and Redknapp, if he returns after injury, who so underperformed in the FA Cup Final, could yet make this their year to remember.

Holland are in need of the quicksilver Kluijvert, and would be advised to restore Seedorf to midfield, his talents being too far removed as a defender from the attacking zone. Where Holland are special is in the use of two wingers, Hoekstra and Jordi Cruyff, still the most exciting strategy in the game.

Holland's would be a fascinating semi-final with Cro-

atia, Italy or the Czech Republic. I do not think that the emergent Czech defence can last the course, though Nedved, one of their half-dozen home-based players, Poborski and Kuka should defeat Russia tomorrow.

Italy have the players to win any match, whatever the eccentric selection of Arrigo Sacchi, and equally the mental introspection to lose it. Their technique under pressure, the product of their league, is second to none.

For the hell of it, I will stick my neck out and predict an England-Italy final: not, however, if Casiraghi misses the sort of opening that cost them the game against the Czech Republic, nor if Gascoigne continues to take a holiday while still on the pitch. His goal of the month has won a match — not a tournament.

Stoichkov displays talent for trouble

By DAVID MADDOCK

AT THE final press conference before the team's decisive Group B fixture, against France this afternoon, there is an excited air of anticipation among the Bulgarian media. They are waiting, along with Dimitar Penev, the coach, and most of the team, waiting for one man before they can begin. That man is Hristo Stoichkov.

He arrives, finally, and slowly, menacingly, moves towards a correspondent from the Bulgarian newspaper, *Seven Days*. A terse sentence, a wave of the arm, and the reporter is dismissed. It transpires that the journalist has committed the ultimate sin by offending the Parma forward. There is no dissent from media or team. What the great man demands, he gets.

If there is one true character in Euro 96, it is Stoichkov. At his best, he has no equal in Europe, a forward of such talent and arrogance that he can win matches with one example of his hypnotic balance and pace, one blur of that explosive left foot.

Such talent does not come without a price, however, and that is expressed in a brooding character, full of anger and devilment. No perceived injus-

tice is allowed to pass without a blast of his biting tongue, no one is allowed to upstage him. That has led to a position so elevated within the squad that it is believed that Stoichkov influences team selection. It seemed appropriate that it was Stoichkov, not Penev, who was asked who should play alongside him against France if Kostadinov is injured.

What a contradiction: intelligent and artistic, smouldering... paranoid even. It is why he is such a player, but it is also why such an immense talent has not won the acclaim it deserves.

Yesterday, his disgust was reserved for the referees, whom he alleges are plotting to deny Bulgaria a place in the final. It is fantastic stuff, but he believes it passionately. The referees are biased against the smaller nations, he argues. "I do not think that Bulgaria can win the tournament," he said. "I don't think that we will be allowed to."

His restlessness and suspicion have taken Stoichkov from Barcelona to Parma, and this summer he is likely to be on the move again. Perhaps with an eye on the riches to be had in the FA Carling Pre-

miership, he was keen to emphasise his great passion for English football, and in particular for Kevin Keegan, the manager of Newcastle United, who has expressed a great interest in him.

Before he can add to his riches — he owns a bank back home in Sofia — he must first attempt to lead Bulgaria to their first significant championship. That means defeating France today to ensure qualification, a task that brings out the wonderful arrogance in Stoichkov.

"France are without Cantona, Ginola and Papin, and that is why I am so relaxed," he said. "They are no better a team than the side we beat to qualify for the World Cup in 1994, and they are without their three best players. I am very aware that France fear us."

In particular, they fear Stoichkov, for, as he proved against Romania, he needs only the merest hint of an invitation. France are waiting on Desailly, the central defender and the man best equipped to stop Stoichkov. If he recovers from a knee injury, he can look forward to a contest that may decide the match.



Stoichkov, right, and Ivanov, his Bulgaria team-mate, ponder their final Group B fixture, against France

Scots need assistance from most unlikely quarters

By KEVIN MCCARRA

AS IF defeat were not bad enough, Scotland are now compelled to cheer for their conquerors. Craig Brown's team must hope that England beat Holland this evening while they are overcoming Switzerland at Villa Park. It is a measure of his plight that Brown needs a complex series of developments if Scotland are to scramble into the quarter-finals of the European championship.

The logic of the tournament rules leaves his team hoping for the improbable. If two nations finish level on points, the result of the match between them determines which one advances. Having lost to England on Saturday, therefore, Scotland are already certain to finish behind them in Group A.

In consequence, attention must be trained on the Dutch. Should Holland lose and Scotland win tonight, both teams will have four points. Nor can the countries be separated by reference to their meeting, for the game at Villa Park ended in a goalless draw. In such circumstances, goal difference provides the second criteria.

Here, Holland have a clear advantage, as their figure is plus two. Scotland stand at minus two. A five-goal swing is therefore required if the teams are to swap places. Brown would, for instance, yearn to hear that England have beaten Holland 3-0 while his team are rounding off a 2-0 win over Switzerland.

When it comes to clutching at straws, all sportsmen possess an exceedingly strong grip. Brown, therefore, is focusing on contingency plans rather than dejection.

Should England hold a narrow lead over Holland, leav-

ing Scotland in need of goals, there will be some calculated rashness at Villa Park. "In that situation we would gamble in the last 20 minutes, just marking Chapuisat and Turkayilmaz man for man while bringing on any substitutes capable of helping us to score," Brown said.

One of the Scottish Football Association staff will keep the manager informed of events at Wembley. Listening to the updates may also spare Brown lending an ear to the small voice that says the cause is lost.

Switzerland, too, have elaborate hopes of qualification, although their hypothesis involves defeat for England. As Brown admits, they also appear to possess the means to shape a result to their liking. "In Turkeyilmaz and Chapuisat, with their electric pace, Switzerland have the best forwards in this group," Brown said.

Had either striker received the chance he fell to Marc Hottiger when the game with Holland was goalless, Switzerland might have won. As it was, the Everton full back hoofed his shot high and the Dutch went on to score twice. Scotland, disciplined but sterile in this competition, have few missed opportunities to regret.

Brown, in his continuing search for a forward enjoying a good day, may decide to field one of the younger attackers, such as Scott Booth or Eoin Jess. None of the permutations, though, guarantee effectiveness, and the manager, who will not name his team until tonight, sounded a little forlorn when he said: "The players deserve a reward for the work they have put in."

After all the Braveheart images in the media, Scotland may well be left, once again, to put a brave face on disappointment.

Spain pin hopes on Nadal

By DAVID MADDOCK

THE gloom that has descended over Spain, after yet another tournament in which they promised much but, so far, have delivered little, has been dispersed somewhat by the return from suspension of Miguel Angel Nadal.

The Barcelona player has talismanic qualities, and his absence for the opening two Group B games, incurred after a dismissal in the last qualifying game, against Macedonia, has cost Spain dear. They enter the final game against Romania aware that even victory will not guarantee qualification to the quarter-finals, should France against Bulgaria end in a high-scoring draw.

Yet Spain had entered this tournament as group seeds and one of the firm favourites

to progress to the latter stages. Unbeaten in 15 games, they qualified for the finals with 26 goals and only four against.

The lack of forward firepower has undeniably impeded their progress, but so, too, has the absence of Nadal. His mere presence is intimidating and those watching Spain train last week were amazed by one of his routines. One of the Spain coaches simply pounded himself against Nadal as the player jumped in the air for crosses. This went on for 15 minutes or more.

He is not merely a destroyer, however, despite his penchant for the red card (he was the first player to be sent off in the last World Cup). Anyone who saw his cultured midfield display against Manchester

United in the European Cup Champions' League will know that his passing is as devastating as his tackling.

It is this that Spain have missed, and gladly welcome back today, Javier Clemente, the coach, believes that Nadal's belated presence could yet be their salvation. He will play in midfield instead of his more regular central defensive position.

"We have given the ball away too much, and that has disrupted our pattern of play," Clemente said. "It has meant that we have not been able to dictate the rhythm of play as we would have wished. That will change with the return of Nadal. His passing is astute and he is so strong and secure that it breathes confidence into the other players."

Beckenbauer praises England

By PETER BALL

THE Germans do not suffer from self-doubt when things are going well. "It is right that we are favourites," Franz Beckenbauer said when he visited their team headquarters yesterday. "The other teams who might be favourites, France, Italy and England, have missed chances. We have been the most convincing team so far."

"At the moment, I see Germany as the No. 1, but that's so far. It's a tournament and there are still quite a few games to go."

Beckenbauer, who coached the Germany team that won the World Cup in 1990, can speak with some authority.

The present team is the best since then, he said — "Berti Vogts [his successor] has done a very good job to bring the standard back to the team."

Beckenbauer, though, respects England. "The second half against Scotland was very impressive," he said. "So far, Terry Venables has done a good job. Maybe against Switzerland he made a mistake when he took Gascoigne off and Switzerland got the equaliser, but I think they belong among the favourites."

"A final between England and Germany after 30 years would be perfect. For me, and I think for the rest of Europe, that would be the ideal final."

If the "dream final" happens, Beckenbauer will be watching Gascoigne with particular interest. "He is one of the few world-class players left," he said. "I have always been a fan of his. I have followed his progress since 1988. I watched the England team a lot in preparation for 1990 and I was always impressed by his skill. He is a very intelligent player — and he is a character."

He was less convinced about Gascoigne's fitness. "He is good for one half, he said, "but maybe not for 90 minutes. I think he might have a problem with extra time."

Gullit commits himself to Chelsea

RUUD GULLIT, the Chelsea player-manager, has signed a new two-year contract that will keep him at the club until at least 1998. The deal was revealed yesterday as Glenn Hoddle's successor introduced his first signing at a Stamford Bridge press conference.

Gianluca Vialli hopes to use his move to Chelsea as a springboard for a return to the Italian national team. Vialli, 31, who was left out of the Euro 96 squad, said: "It will be difficult for me to get back into the national side with [Arrigo] Sacchi as manager, but I hope to score as many goals as possible for Chelsea and that will put Sacchi in trouble."

The former Juventus captain, who helped his side to victory in the European Cup last season, will make his debut in the FA Carling Premiership at The Dell against Southampton on August 17. Manchester United, the champions and FA Cup-winners, start the new league season with a trip to Selhurst Park to play Wimbledon. They then face Everton at home the next Wednesday and visit Blackburn Rovers, the 1995 champions, three days later.

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP (Saturday, August 17) Arsenal v West Ham United; Blackburn Rovers v Tottenham Hotspur; Coventry City v Nottingham Forest; Derby County v Leeds United; Everton v Newcastle United; Middlesbrough v Liverpool; Sheffield Wednesday v Aston Villa; Southampton v Chelsea; Sunderland v Leicester City; Wimbledon v Manchester United.

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National Breakdown

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

The "Sputnik" or "negative" double is a useful gadget, and most duplicate players include it in their armoury. Under this method, if you double an overall, that is not for penalties; the double shows some high cards and denies the ability to make any obvious natural bid. However, it can sometimes make it difficult to penalise the opponents when they make simple two over one intervention.

Low All	Dealer West	Pairs
♠ 87	♠ 10 4 3 2	
♥ 7 6	♥ 10 8	
♦ 10 9 8 3	♦ K J 10 7	
♣ A 5	♣ A Q	
♠ A J 9 3		
♥ 9 6 4		
♦ J 8 4 2		
♣ J 9 6		
♠ K Q 5 4 2		
♥ A 8		
♦ K 7 5		

Contract: Two Hearts Doubled, by South. Lead: Ace of spades

At this table, East-West were playing penalty doubles, and South's overall got what it deserved. It is rarely correct to overall at the two-level on a five-card suit, unless it is virtually solid. In my view, if South's hearts were K Q J 9 8, he would be just about worth a bid at Pairs.

The defence started with ace and king of spades and a spade ruff. West switched to a club, which East won and continued with the queen of clubs to the king. Declarer played the king of hearts to West's ace, the jack of clubs was cashed and a fourth club ruffed by East with the ten of hearts. South discarding a diamond. West still had another heart trick to come and the contract was three off.

That was 800 to East-West, on a part-score hand.

I was asked: "Would it be safe to overall against a pair playing negative doubles?" On this occasion, South might get away with it. The only way for East-West to catch South in Two Hearts Doubled is for West to pass Two Hearts; then East might re-open with a double, though that is a dubious bid on his hand. However that does not change my view that South should pass One Spade — many times South will get caught in Two Hearts when it is clear for East-West to bid as I suggest.

□ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

By RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Karpov extends lead

The sixth game in the Fide championship between Anatoly Karpov and Gata Kamsky cruelly underlined the increasing disparity in form between Karpov, 45, the champion, and Kamsky, 22, his challenger. Karpov won swiftly and convincingly with the traditionally disadvantageous black pieces. This was Karpov's second win as Black in a mere six games, and he now leads by the dominating score of four points to two. Karpov takes White in the seventh game scheduled for today.

In the sixth game Karpov selected a novel and risky variation of the normally solid Petroff Defence. At an early stage Karpov forfeited the right to castle and it appeared that Kamsky had emerged from the opening phase with a small but clear plus. However, just as fortune appeared to be smiling upon him, Kamsky indulged in a series of time-wasting manoeuvres with his king's bishop, seemingly unable to find the right square for this piece. While Kamsky was dithering, Karpov regrouped his forces and moved over to the counter-attack. Karpov's 29th move caught a fine performance, sacrificing rook for bishop to deflect White's queen from the defence.

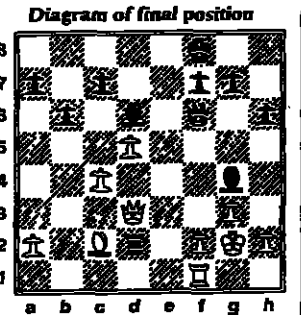
White: Gata Kamsky
Black: Anatoly Karpov
Fide world championship
Elista, sixth game, June 1996

Petroff Defence

1 e4 e5
2 Nf3 Nf6
3 d4 Nxe4
4 Bc3 d5
5 Nxe5 Nc7
6 Nxd7 Bxd7
7 O-O Bc8
8 Nc3 Qh4
9 g3 Nxc3
10 bxc3 Qg4
11 Re1+ Kd8

The Times Winning Moves 2 contains 240 chess puzzles from International Grandmaster Raymond Keene's daily column in *The Times*, and is available now from bookshops or from B.T. Batsford Ltd (tel: 01376 321276) at £6.99 plus postage and packing.

□ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.



After 30, Qxd2 Qb3; 31, Kgl Bb3. White's king is trapped in a mating net from which there is no escape, except at ruinous material loss.

Match score	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Karpov	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Kamsky	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

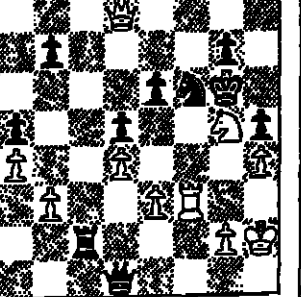
- SANTON
- a. An Easter cake
b. An Islamic monk
c. A tenor bell
- SIZAR
- a. The water-parsnip
b. A tester
c. A scholar
- SEARIM
- a. The seashore
b. Trainee rabbits
c. An amino-acid
- SIGILLARIA
- a. An Ottoman treasury
b. A coal tree
c. A colony of sealions
- Answers on page 50

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is a variation from the game Shirov — Karpov, Las Palmas, 1994. Both sides are attempting to drive the opposing king out into the open, but it is White who is having the greater success. How could he now have finished off?

Solution on page 50



A short, sweet reprieve for the sport-weary

Writing about programmes that last less than ten minutes can be an unpleasant business. Colleagues pass you at the coffee machine muttering something that always ends "...proper job". Readers break out the green ink to pen letters that all finish "...and get paid for it". Unless you are prepared for the backlash and/or have the creative sensitivities of a sea cucumber, the ten-minute programme is best avoided.

But today, frankly, we have little choice. The only real alternative is a programme about heroin addiction and if there is one thing I can't cope with first thing in the morning it is that. So I shall give us all a few paragraphs to steel ourselves while we kick off with something more reliably uplifting: architecture.

The other reason for beginning with *Building Sights* (BBC2) is that while it may be short, it is, as

they say, beautifully formed. Last week's tribute to the Humber Bridge by Simon Arncliffe, the poet, was exquisite and should be showered with any awards that have a category for short films about long bridges. Last night's *Posy Simmonds*, the cartoonist and author, faced a rather tougher task with Wood Street police station in the City of London, a building that has none of the lyrical advantages of a brooding, vaulting suspension bridge but does possess an interesting secret — it is actually a Neo-Classical Italian *palazzo* in disguise.

Now, I have walked past this building many times but this fact had never rung any *campanile* with me. Now, thanks to Simmonds and her nine minutes and whatever it was seconds, the architectural scales have dropped from my eyes. I shall never look at its fine Italianate detailing in the same way again. Shame all the

pretty bits turned out to be parts of the ventilation system.

Simmonds proved a charming if gently bawdy guide. Tiring a little of things architectural, she introduced us to Nobby, a Polish-bred police horse who, reputedly, had once been introduced to Lech Walesa. The only word she knew in Polish was the word for cabbage, which she repeated several times. Nobby, it had to be said, looked quite interested.

We left Simmonds tap-dancing (rather well) in what appeared to be the police station's ballroom but which, given the building's function and its little Italian secret, may well have been a Masonic lodge. Either way, it mattered not. It had been another lovely ten minutes.

Ready for heroin addiction? No. I'm not sure I am yet, so we'll just do a couple of healthy laps around

REVIEW

Matthew Bond



the final instalment of *Fair Game* (Channel 4). I know, I know, another sports programme, but which, given the building's function and its little Italian secret, may well have been a Masonic lodge. Either way, it mattered not. It had been another lovely ten minutes.

Ready for heroin addiction? No. I'm not sure I am yet, so we'll just do a couple of healthy laps around

even a three Shredded Wheat athlete could chew, when it tackled the bureaucratic muddle that is sports funding in this country.

From the outset, our intrepid and seriously wealthy reporter, Greg Dyke, decided he knew the answer: more money and less bureaucracy. With the number of interested parties seemingly growing by the minute — the Sports Council, the Sports-Aid Foundation, the British Olympic Association — it was difficult to disagree, particularly with the well-meaning point about the financial problems facing young athletes just below top level. As Graham Oakes, the world record-holding cyclist, put it: "It's very hard to get sponsorship until you have achieved what you need the sponsorship for."

But it was also hard to disagree entirely with Robert Watson, a former treasurer of the well-heeled BOA, that if you cast the funding net too wide, you end up funding

the average rather than the excellent.

Somewhat unexpectedly, the last word went to that well known athlete David Mellor, who in his rich and varied life outside Parliament has somehow found time to be chairman of the SAF. Lottery money, the great modern cure-all, could yet be the solution, he declared. "This could be the greatest time ever to be a promising young athlete in this country, but whether it will be depends on the willingness of some people in blazers to fall on their swords." Some people? I think we all have our little lists.

Our walk on the wild side. I'm afraid, can be postponed no longer. It is time to consider Alexander Trocchi: *A Life in Pieces* (BBC2). Trocchi, according to the great chemical *bon vivant*, William Burroughs, was the sort of man who "could

find a vein in a mummy". Others describe him as "the George Best of Scottish literature". That, however, was a bit hard on Best.

Trocchi emerged from Tim Niel's lovingly assembled but relentlessly depressing film as a man with two habits. One was heroin, the other was persuading beautiful women to live with him. In between he edited a literary magazine, wrote a couple of books and hung out with the likes of Burroughs and Leonard Cohen.

He would do anything for the next fix. He begged, borrowed and stole from friends, he pinched off the earnings of his wife, he dealt in drugs, he turned others into junkies. Boy was he fun to be around.

He, of course, would have little time for my "bourgeois morality". It was, he said, his "bound duty to go out and experiment with strange and unknown states of mind". At that point, I decided it was my bound duty to go to bed.

BBC1

- 6.00am Business Breakfast (54876)
7.00am BBC Breakfast News (Ceelax) (85147)
9.00am Breakfast News Extra (Ceelax) (2226857)
9.20am Morning Surgery (s) (1963780)
9.50am *Animal Adventure* (1979) with Christopher Lee and Oliver Tobias. An adventure for children, in which flying carpets and magic gems feature large. Directed by Kevin Connor (Ceelax) (29367418)
11.35am *Even More of Glynis Christian's Entertaining Microwaves* (r) (6250470)
11.50am *Outings: River Severn* (r) (5749554)
12.00am News (Ceelax) regional news and weather (7134470)
12.05pm *Est Your Words* (s) (8487809)
12.35pm *Going for Gold* (s) (4851166)
1.00am News (Ceelax) and weather (88234)
1.30am Regional News and weather (39768499)
1.35am *Neighbours* (Ceelax) (s) (35780944)
1.55am *Royal Ascot 1996*. Coverage of four races on the opening day of racing's social highlight of the year (s) (26764302)
4.10am *Euro 96 Live*. Live coverage of France v Bulgaria at St James' Park, introduced by Desmond Lynam with Alan Hansen and Ruud Gullit (Ceelax) (36498470)
6.40am News (Ceelax) and weather (733673)
7.10am Regional News magazines (222302)
7.30am *EastEnders*. Kathy wakes up to Phil's doings and an Acacia. Tony is alarmed at the scale of Des's ambitions and late happiness proves short-lived when an outburst from Cindy blows out his fire (Ceelax) (s) (321)
8.00am *Wildlife on One: Deadly Liaisons*. David Attenborough narrates a film about the deadly giant black tiger snakes which infest a remote island off Australia (Ceelax) (s) (3673)
8.30am *Goodnight Sweetheart: I Got It Bad and That Ain't Good*. Time travel across. While Yvonne has her heart set on moving house, Gary is still more tempted by time travelling. With Nicholas Lyndhurst (r) (Ceelax) (s) (2708)
9.00am News (Ceelax) regional news and weather (3418)
9.30am *Cardiac Arrest*. Unnoticed, Liz is beginning to falter under the pressure, but receives no sympathy from her fellow orderlies (93079)
10.00am *Flying Soldiers*. (5/6) Course 354 gets its first taste of battle, spotting targets, artillery on Salisbury Plain. Next it's off to Snowdonia where the remaining seven recruits face uncompromising Welsh weather and terrain (Ceelax) (s) (46673)
10.30am *Euro 96*. Highlights of today's four concluding games in Groups A and B (7936470)
11.50am *Royal Ascot 1996*. Highlights of the opening day's fashion and racing introduced by Clare Balding (s) (336557)
12.10am *FILE: The 5th Monarchy* (1990) with Ben Kingsley and Mike Niles. Brazil-based tale of a hunter of new money from his exploits to many the woman of his dreams. Directed by Eric Roth (s) (443633)
1.45am Weather (1783987)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes
The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to programme your video recorder to record a programme. To find out more, see the VideoPlus+ handbook. To find out more, see the VideoPlus+ handbook. To find out more, see the VideoPlus+ handbook.

© For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday.

SKY ONE
7.00am *Unlabeled* (1993) 8.00 *Press Connection* (1993) 9.00 *Open House* (1993) 10.00 *Jeopardy!* (1993) 11.00 *Salvo* (1993) 12.00 *Salvo* (1993) 1.00 *Salvo* (1993) 2.00 *Salvo* (1993) 3.00 *Salvo* (1993) 4.00 *Salvo* (1993) 5.00 *Salvo* (1993) 6.00 *Salvo* (1993) 7.00 *Salvo* (1993) 8.00 *Salvo* (1993) 9.00 *Salvo* (1993) 10.00 *Salvo* (1993) 11.00 *Salvo* (1993) 12.00 *Salvo* (1993) 1.00 *Salvo* (1993) 2.00 *Salvo* (1993) 3.00 *Salvo* (1993) 4.00 *Salvo* (1993) 5.00 *Salvo* (1993) 6.00 *Salvo* (1993) 7.00 *Salvo* (1993) 8.00 *Salvo* (1993) 9.00 *Salvo* (1993) 10.00 *Salvo* (1993) 11.00 *Salvo* (1993) 12.00 *Salvo* (1993) 1.00 *Salvo* (1993) 2.00 *Salvo* (1993) 3.00 *Salvo* (1993) 4.00 *Salvo* (1993) 5.00 *Salvo* (1993) 6.00 *Salvo* (1993) 7.00 *Salvo* (1993) 8.00 *Salvo* (1993) 9.00 *Salvo* (1993) 10.00 *Salvo* (1993) 11.00 *Salvo* (1993) 12.00 *Salvo* (1993) 1.00 *Salvo* (1993) 2.00 *Salvo* (1993) 3.00 *Salvo* (1993) 4.00 *Salvo* (1993) 5.00 *Salvo* (1993) 6.00 *Salvo* (1993) 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